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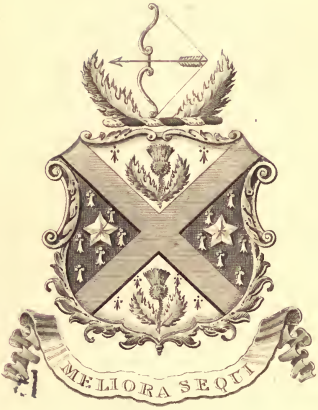

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FAMILY PRAYERS:

BEING A COMPLETE

COURSE FOR EIGHT WEEKS;

WITH

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS,

SUITED TO THE

FASTS AND FESTIVALS OF THE CHURCH,

AND THE VARIOUS OCCASIONS AND
CIRCUMSTANCES OF A FAMILY.

BY THE REV. E. BICKERSTETH,
RECTOR OF WATTON, HERTS.

Eighteenth Thousand.

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TO HIS DEAR FRIENDS

MAJOR-GENERAL AND MRS. MARSHALL,

FORMERLY HIS PARISHIONERS AT WATTON,

With his earnest prayer that they may partake of all the rich blessings of the gospel of the grace of God, and be honoured instruments to help in the diffusion of those blessings far and wide through the world ;

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED,

BY THE AUTHOR.

Watton Rectory, Herts,
April 2, 1842.

CONTENTS.

PAGE
PREFACE - - - - - - - xiii
HINTS TO HELP AGAINST MERE FORMALITY - - - xvii

COMMENCEMENT OF FAMILY PRAYER.

Address of the head of a family on beginning family worship 1
A first family prayer . . 4
The Lord's prayer . . 6
The concluding blessings . 6

COURSE OF EIGHT WEEKS' FAMILY PRAYERS.

First Week.

Sunday Morning—For grace to improve Sabbath privileges 7
Sunday Evening—For a blessing on the word preached 9
Monday Morning — For a sense of God's love . 10
Monday Evening—Prayer—a rest in weariness . 12
Tuesday Morning—Strength for daily duty . . 13
Tuesday Evening—For fulfilling present duty in hope of coming glory, and for protection . . 15
Wednesday Morning—Praise for mercy, and prayer for faith, hope, and love . 17
Wednesday Evening—Confession of sins, and prayer for help; for a blessing on religious societies . 18
Thursday Morning—To receive out of God's sufficiency what we need . 20
Thursday Evening—Thanksgiving for Christ, prayer for the Holy Spirit, and for help to the afflicted . 21
Friday Morning — Grace sought through Christ for ourselves, our church, and our country . . 23
Friday Evening—To know and love God; for our parish and the church . 24
Saturday Morning—For preparation for the Sabbath, and for the overthrow of Satan 26
Saturday Evening—Praise, confession, and a blessing asked for the Sabbath 27

Second Week.

Sunday Morning—Praise for Sabbath mercies . . 29
Sunday Evening — Prayer that mercies may not be received in vain, and sins confessed . . . 30
Monday Morning — Faith sought with grace to remember the word preached 32
Monday Evening—For communion with God, par-

PAGE

don in Christ, and praise for family mercies . . 34
Tuesday Morning—To take up the cross, praise for earthly and heavenly blessings . . . 35
Tuesday Evening—Praise for the scriptures, and prayer for their diffusion . . 37
Wednesday Morning—To do all in the name of Jesus . 39
Wednesday Evening — The blessedness of God's presence ; grace for duty . 41
Thursday Morning—Dependence on God, and prayer for the afflicted . . 43
Thursday Evening — For a sense of eternal realities 45
Friday Morning—Grace to follow Christ in trial and reproach . . . 46
Friday Evening—Confession of daily sins, prayer for absent friends . . 48
Saturday Morning — Praise for family worship, prayer for giving up ourselves to God 50
Saturday Evening—Preparation for Christ's coming ; prayer for ministers . 52

Third Week.

Sunday Morning—A universal Sabbath desired . 55
Sunday Evening—Praise for Sabbath mercies, the heavenly Sabbath desired . 57
Monday Morning—Praise for morning mercies, family blessedness sought . 59
Monday Evening—Faith in Christ sought . . 61
Tuesday Morning—Help in the difficulties of the day: prayer for the prosperity of the church . . 63
Tuesday Evening — God's mercies and our sins : parish-blessings sought . 64
Wednesday Morning—The love of God to Britain, and prayer for others . 66
Wednesday Evening — Our care cast on God : the coming of Christ's kingdom sought . . . 68
Thursday Morning — The throne of judgment and the throne of grace : adoption sought . . 70
Thursday Evening—Sin confessed : faith in Christ desired, and afflictions to be sanctified . . . 72
Friday Morning — Jehovah adored: the aid of the Spirit, and the grace of Christ sought : consideration for others desired . 74
Friday Evening—God's mercies to us, and our sins against him : prayer to the Holy Spirit . . 76
Saturday Morning—Strength to perform daily duties as unto the Lord . . 78
Saturday Evening—The intercession of Christ pleaded : Sabbath blessings sought 80

Fourth Week.

Sunday Morning — For a blessing on the church in every land, and on our own efforts to do good . 82
Sunday Evening — Adoration : confession : prayer to be preserved from a hardened heart . . 83

PAGE

Monday Morning—Praise : confession : a blessing sought on the word preached 85
Monday Evening—For faith in Christ's love, and hatred of sin 86
Tuesday Morning — Joy in God's providence : conformity to his image desired 88
Tuesday Evening — For repentance and free justification 89
Wednesday Morning — For separation from the world and grace to be given to each member of the family 91
Wednesday Evening — For faith in promises to prayer : and for quickening grace 93
Thursday Morning—For the Holy Spirit 94
Thursday Evening—For forgiveness and the spirit of adoption: intercession 96
Friday Morning—For perseverance and saving grace, intercession for the church and our country . 98
Friday Evening — Praise : confession of sin in holy things : prayer for unconverted 100
Saturday Morning—For divine compassion and assistance in duty . . 102
Saturday Evening—Preparedness for Christ's coming : help in Sabbath duties 103

Fifth Week.

Sunday Morning—For the Holy Spirit, and for a blessing on christian congregations 106
Sunday Evening—Prayer to be heard, and wants supplied through Christ . 108
Monday Morning—To spend the week under the influence of Sabbath services, and to be useful . 110
Monday Evening—For spiritual blessings . . 111
Tuesday Morning — For heavenly - mindedness, strength, and grace for relative duties . . 113
Tuesday Evening—For a contrite spirit, and the fulness of Christ's salvation 115
Wednesday Morning—Praise to God for all things, even afflictions 117
Wednesday Evening — Against mere formality, and for family holiness . 118
Thursday Morning—For faith in the word, regard to the soul, and grief for sin in others 120
Thursday Evening—Confession of sins, and prayer for faith, hope, and love 122
Friday Morning—Confession of sin, and prayer for pardon 124
Friday Evening—For assured faith in Christ, and the revealing of his glory 126
Saturday Morning—Preparation for the Sabbath : intercession for the church 127
Saturday Evening—For rest in Christ, and special blessings on the Sabbath 129

Sixth Week (Shorter Prayers.)

PAGE

Lord's Day Morning—Praise for Sabbath mercies, prayer for a spiritual mind, and for God's ministers 132
Lord's Day Evening — For a knowledge of God's word 134
Monday Morning — God's mercies and our unworthiness: to profit by the word 135
Monday Evening — To receive out of the fulness of Christ . . . 136
Tuesday Morning — Praise for gospel blessings, and prayer to fulfil daily duty 138
Tuesday Evening—For grace to do God's will, and for family union in Christ . 139
Wednesday Morning—That we may partake of the riches of Christ . . 141
Wednesday Evening — To know God and be delivered from sin . . 142
Thursday Morning—For self-dedication and the spirit of love 144
Thursday Evening—That we may attain heavenly glory 145
Friday Morning — For the light of Christ, and deliverance from sin . . 146
Friday Evening — Deliverance from all dangers . 148
Saturday Morning—For repentance, faith, and holiness 149
Saturday Evening—For faith, hope, love, and heavenly wisdom 151

Seventh Week (Cottager's Family Prayers.)

Lord's Day Morning — To keep the Sabbath holy . 153
Lord's Day Evening—To remember the lesson of the Sabbath . . . 154
Monday Morning — To go through the week's work in a Sabbath spirit . 155
Monday Evening—Praise for God's mercies to us sinners 155
Tuesday Morning—Strength for the day's duties . 156
Tuesday Evening—Looking to Jesus to take away our sins, and for his coming . 157
Wednesday Morning—To do all with a heavenly mind 157
Wednesday Evening--Praise, prayer for contentment, and for a blessing on heathen nations . . . 158
Thursday Morning — Praise for all that Jesus is and does for us 159
Thursday Evening—Confession: prayer for God's Spirit: intercession for the Jews . . . 160
Friday Morning—For grace to fulfil each our own duty 161
Friday Evening--To be taught to hate sin; for the supply of our bodily wants . 161
Saturday Morning — To be kept from temptation: prayer for our country . 162
Saturday Evening—To prepare for eternity: prayer for our church . . 163

Moveable Feasts and Fasts.

PAGE

Advent — First Week —
Lord's Day Morning — Thanks for the first coming and preparation desired for the second coming 165
Lord's Day Evening—Preparation for the Judgment to come . . . 167
Thursday Morning . . 169
Thursday Evening . . 170
Saturday Morning . . 172
Saturday Evening . . 173
Advent — Second Week —
Lord's Day Morning . . 174
Lord's Day Evening . . 176
Monday Evening . . . 177
Tuesday Morning . . 179
Tuesday Evening . . . 180
Wednesday Morning . . 182
Wednesday Morning . . 183
Thursday Morning . . 185
Thursday Evening . . 186
Friday Morning . . . 188
Friday Evening . . . 189
Saturday Morning . . 191
Saturday Evening . . 192
Advent — Third Week —
Lord's Day Morning . . 194
Palm Sunday Morning—For grace to look to a suffering Saviour . . . 197
Palm Sunday Evening—To be like the disciples of Christ 198
Monday Morning—For grace to meditate on Christ, and to confess him . 200
Monday Evening—Hosannas to the Saviour; prayers for his speedy return to Zion 201
Tuesday Morning—The sins of the Gentile churches confessed, and prayer for cleansing . . . 203

PAGE

Tuesday Evening—For grace to have fellowship with Christ's suffering . . 204
Wednesday Morning — For grace to receive the instructions of Christ . 205
Wednesday Evening — For grace to keep the law, and for preservation from apostacy . . . 206
Thursday Morning—To follow the humility of Christ, and to believe in him 208
Thursday Evening—Thanksgivings for the sufferings of Christ (from Ardnt) . 209
Good Friday Morning—To learn the lessons taught by Christ's passion . 211
Good Friday Evening — Thanksgiving for the death of Christ (from Ardnt) 213
Saturday Morning — Praise for the burial of Christ . 215
Saturday Evening—For deliverance from fear of death, and confidence in time of darkness . . 217
Ash Wednesday and Lent—For a spirit of true repentance . . . 218
Easter day—Morning Prayer 220
Evening Prayer 222
Ascension day and Sunday after 224
Whit Sunday Morning . 226
Evening . 228
Trinity Sunday Morning . 230
Evening . 232
Ember Week—First Prayer —Before Ordination . 234
Ember Week—Second Prayer —After Ordination . 234

Fixed Feasts, Fasts, and Seasons.

IN THE ORDER OF THE CALENDAR;

WITH THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND COLLECTS, AND REFERENCE TO THE EPISTLES AND GOSPELS ON THE SAINTS' DAYS.

	PAGE
On Saints' Days in General	236
Jan. 1--Circumcision of Christ	237
Jan. 1--First day of the year	
Morning Prayer	237
Evening Prayer	239
First Lord's day of the year—	
Morning Prayer	242
Evening Prayer	244
Jan. 6—Epiphany—Morning Prayer	246
Evening Prayer	248
Jan. 25—The conversion of St. Paul	248
Jan. 30—The martyrdom of Charles I.	249
Feb. 2—The Purification of Mary the Virgin	249
Feb. 24—St. Matthias	250
March 25—The Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary	250
April 25—St. Mark	250
May 1—St. Philip and St. James	250
May 29—Restoration	251
June 11—St. Barnabas the apostle	251
June 20—The Queen's accession	251
June 24—St. John Baptist	252
June 29—St. Peter	252
July 25--St. James the apostle	253
Aug. 24—St. Bartholomew the apostle	253
Sep. 21—St. Matthew the apostle	253
Sep. 29—St. Michael and All Angels	253
Oct. 18—St. Luke the Evangelist	254
Oct. 28—St. Simon and St. Jude	254
Nov. 1—All Saints	254
Nov. 5—Papists' conspiracy	254
Nov. 9—Prince of Wales' birth-day	255
Nov. 30—St. Andrew	256
Dec. 21—St. Thomas the apostle	256
Dec. 25—Christmas day—	
Morning Prayer	256
Evening Prayer	258
Dec. 26—St. Stephen	260
Dec. 27—St. John the Evangelist	260
Dec. 28—The Innocents	261
The last Lord's day of the year—Morning Prayer	261
Evening Prayer	263
Dec. 31—The last day of the year—Morning Prayer	265
Evening Prayer	267

Church Occasional Seasons.

Prayer before the baptism of a child	269
Prayer after baptism	270
Prayer before confirmation	270
Prayer after confirmation	271
Before communion (on any day the week previously)	271
Lord's day Morning before communion	272
Before communion on the	

PAGE

Lord's day, (to be added to the usual family prayers) 274
Lord's day evening, after communion 275
After communion (to be added to the other prayers) 277
After communion (in the following week) . . 277
Marriage in a family . . 278
Thanksgiving after child-birth 278
Burial of a member of a family 279
Public Fast day . . . 279
Public Thanksgiving day . 281

Family Providential Seasons.

Removing to a new residence 283
Members of the family about to journey . . . 283
For members of the family absent 284
Thanksgiving on the return home of those absent . 284
Before the visit of a friend . 284
Birth-day in a family . . 285
A servant's leaving the family 285
A servant's coming into the family 285
For direction in choosing a servant 286
In time of sickness in a family 286
In time of affliction . . 287
Thanksgiving on recovery from sickness . . 287
Thanksgiving for deliverance from affliction . . 288
For a sick child . . . 288
Thanksgiving for the recovery of a child . . . 288
Prayer on the sickness of a minister . . . 289
Thanksgiving on his recovery 289
For a servant in the family, when sick . . . 289
Thanksgiving for a servant restored to health . . 290
In time of general sickness . 290
Prayer in prospect of trials . 291
Perplexities and troubles . 291
Heavy calamities . . 291
Death in a family . . 292
When the death has been truly Christian . . 293
Time of riots and insubordination 293
For rain 294
For fair weather . . . 294
Thanks for rain . . . 294
Thanks for fair weather . 294
In winter 295
In summer and harvest . 295
Vacancy of a bishopric . 296
Changes in administration . 296
Vacancy in the Parish Minister 296
Prayer to be used by soldiers 297
Prayer to be used by sailors. 298
Prayer for the use of a Clerical Meeting . . . 299

Family Intercessions.

Prayer for the Church of God 302
For bishops, priests, deacons, and all the ministers of Christ 303
For Protestant and Reformed churches . . . 303
Prayer for unity among Christians . . . 304
Prayer for Universities and Colleges . . . 305
Prayer for Judges and Magistrates 306
Prayer for our country . . 306
For the meeting of Parliament 307
Prayer for our great cities . 307
Prayer for our parish . . 308
For those engaged in arduous efforts to do good . . 309
For benefactors . . . 310
For the aged . . . 310

PAGE
For children 311
For persons dependent on us 311
For friends in trial . . 311
Thanksgiving for blessings to friends 312
Three prayers for the use of schools on week days . 312
A prayer for the use of schools on the Sabbath . . 313

Family Intercessions for Religious Societies.

Before a meeting or sermon to promote Christianity among the Jews . . 315
After the same . . . 316
Before Gospel Propagation or Missionary Society meetings or sermons . . 316
Before Christian Knowledge, Prayer Book & Homily, and Religious Tract Societies 318
Prayer before efforts to aid Bible Societies . . 319
For Clerical Aid and Pastoral Aid Societies . . . 320
For a blessing on Schools and efforts to promote Education 320
For a blessing on charitable institutions . . . 321

Family Prayers for Special Graces.

To walk consistently with our baptism . . . 322
Prayer for conversion . . 323
For repentance . . . 323
For faith 324
For forgiveness of sins . . 325
For earnestness in religion . 325
For love to God and his people 326
Thanks for family love, and prayer for its increase and abounding to all men . 326
For Christian graces . . 327
Prayer against our spiritual enemies . . . 328
On receiving injuries from others 328
Prayer for patience . . 329
To be delivered from covetousness . . . 330
For grace to walk in the path of duty 330
For grace to confess the truth 331
For likemindedness to Christ 331
For grace to follow the example of a suffering Saviour 332
For holiness 332
For hope 333
For joy and peace in believing 333
For Preparation for the coming of Christ . . . 334
Preservation from the peculiar errors of these times . 334
Preservation from the special temptations of these times 335
That the hope of communion with angels in glory may quicken us to present obedience . . . 336
For grace to realize the presence and love of Christ 336
For grace to realize the unchangeableness of Christ 337
Prayer for husband and wife together . . . 338
Grace before meals . . 339
Grace after meals . . . 339

Commencing and closing Family Prayers.

Commencement of prayer . 340
Twelve Morning Collects 340-343
Two Sunday Morning Collects . . . 343, 344
Twelve Evening Collects 344-347
Two Sunday Evening Collects . . . 347, 348
Lord's prayer . . . 348
Conclusion of prayers . . 348
Concluding blessing. . . 349

PREFACE.

The regular daily practice of family devotion comes so continually, that the multiplication of helps is not without its advantage against the danger of mere formal repetitions. May it please the Lord to bless each scriptural effort, thus to assist the devotions of his people. The circumstances of the times are so peculiar, and the unfoldings of providence are so remarkable, as justly to call on the minister of Christ to supply his people with hints for prayers suited to these times.

The prayers here given are comparatively short, particularly those in the 6th and 7th weeks; but it will be easy to enlarge them from the occasional prayers which occupy a considerable part of the present volume. The Collects for the Saints' Days are from the Liturgy; but excepting the few where the names are given, the other prayers are original.

Calendars for the regular reading of the Scriptures have been given. It is most important to join a portion of God's word to this service. A Table of Chapters suited to the Prayers is given. When pressed for time, the Calendar of the Psalms furnished by Mr. Dallas, will supply a short portion. The Calendar of Lessons will furnish a selection of lessons where the whole is too long to be read, or not suitable for family reading. The Epistles and Gospels for the Feasts and Fasts will furnish a

further variety. Matthew Henry used to say that they who pray, do well; they who pray and read the Scriptures, do better; they who pray, and read, and sing, do best; this is true, provided the heart go along with the worship, and we are led from the outward to the inward service.

The Author's plan has long been to sing a psalm or hymn, read a short portion from the New Testament in regular course in the morning, and from the Old in the evening, explain it in a practical manner, and then unite with his family in prayer, founded on the instruction given, and connected with the events of the day.

It is very desirable that family prayer should not be something distinct and separate from the usual spirit and habits of the family; but the refreshing and strengthening of all the ordinary course and feelings, and the very centre of the family interest and happiness, gathering round it all that most concerns us every day. It is important that it should not be merely a venerable custom, but a spring of blessing, flowing daily in renewed streams of grace for the whole household.

The following hints in reference to these prayers may be useful.

The Author hopes that the heads of families who shall use them, may be induced by their general shortness, to lengthen them as occasion may require, and he gives the following hints for this purpose.

The Lord's Prayer should precede, or follow the form here given.

It would be well, before the family assemble for worship, to give a little time to looking through the prayer, and at the Calendar, and to consider what further prayers in the occasional prayers may be seasonable.

The Scripture read daily in course and order will furnish suitable and affecting subjects for confession, petition, intercession and praise, to be added to the family worship.

The sermons of the preceding Sabbath, or the church collect for the week, will also furnish farther suitable desires and prayers to be added to the forms here given.

Collects for special graces are added at the close of the book, that they may be occasionally used.

The sacred seasons of the Church of England furnish her members also with profitable opportunities of varying and enlarging family devotion.

In this method it is hoped that many a master, or parent, or head of a family, giving a few minutes previously in private for preparation, will learn by degrees the happy skill of framing his own family devotions; and giving that variety to them which will adapt them to the ever-varying circumstances of a family, and through the grace of the Holy Spirit, prevent their becoming a mere matter of form and custom.

Expounding the Scripture is a valuable addition to family prayer. Reflections on the portion of Scripture read, may be found in Doddridge, Scott, Hardman's Commentary on the New Testament, edited by Dalton. The Author has also published Practical reflections on the four Gospels, arranged in the form of a Harmony, selected from practical and evangelical writers.

In a former work the Author recommended that every head of a family should try to attain the holy skill of exposition in his family, and should be a Teacher in his own house. The skill is of more easy attainment, and of much more important benefit, than is often supposed. Christians might thus become more fitted for extensive usefulness. Anything tedious and wearisome is to be avoided. Short striking addresses to the conscience, drawn from the passage, like arrows from the bow, penetrate the heart, but lengthened common-place explanation, wearies and disgusts, and is in ordinary circumstances quite out of place in the family. Much, very much of the true blessedness of this service will depend on the lively piety of the expounder. Well is it when family prayer is felt to be such a blessing, that a necessary absence is found to be a loss and a privation.

In closing these prefatory remarks, I would endeavour to press upon the heads of families to seek the attainment

of the blessed privilege of conducting family devotions without being tied to a form, and with all the freedom of unbosoming our inward feelings and wants as children of God, to our heavenly Parent and ever-present Redeemer. Multiplication of forms cannot fully meet the vast variety of Providence, or comprehend the infinite fulness of divine thoughts and pleadings given us in the word of God for this blessed duty. What comes warm and direct from the heart will also find its way more readily to the hearts of others.

Gratifying then as is the large and growing demand for publications of this kind, as showing that this blessed duty is more extensively practised, I cannot but hope that in this, as well as in other things, the New Covenant direction and promise may soon be more realized. "They shall not teach every man his neighbour and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord; but all shall know me, from the least to the greatest."

The highest recompense of all labour is to promote the divine glory in being useful to the souls of our fellow-men.

The Lord prosper this effort to this end. I send forth this work to the Church, with humble prayer to that heavenly Father who has graciously prospered my past publications so much beyond my hopes, that it may please him to make this farther effort useful in promoting family devotion among my fellow-christians.

E. BICKERSTETH.

Watton Rectory, Herts, April 2, 1842.

HINTS AGAINST MERE FORMALITY, OR IRREVERENCE IN FAMILY WORSHIP.

At the suggestion of a friend, a few introductory words of warning, on the danger to which this blessed service is exposed, are prefixed to this book of Family Prayers. Conscience will often exact the performance of an outward duty, when the spirit that should animate it is wholly absent; conscience will often loudly reproach a total omission of family worship, but hardly utter a faint whisper of reproof for the irreverent manner, and the wandering heart, that has mocked the King of heaven. Family devotion is of all others most exposed to these dangers. The sacred associations of the house of God tend to throw a solemnity over our public services; family worship is carried on in the midst of the scenes of our domestic intercourse;—the same chamber that, but a few minutes before, was the scene of social mirth and cheerfulness, becomes a Bethel,—a house of God. There is no desecration in this; far would we be from having any sympathy with the spirit

which would throw down our family altars, and merge all our social worship in the public services of the sanctuary; the day is coming when the very bells of the horses shall be inscribed with "Holiness to the Lord," and it is a blessed foretaste of that day to hallow our common dwellings, as places where prayer is wont to be made. There is no desecration here;—but there is danger, and it is well to be aware of the danger. The narrow path is ever a dangerous one, and it must be difficult to mingle religion with our commonest things without making it common, so as to be deficient in holy reverence and fear of God.

Family worship, again, is attended with more dangers than private devotion. Secret prayer is, it is to be hoped, with most, the first business of the morning before the pressing duties of the day crowd on; family worship on the contrary is sometimes necessarily a short recal from those busy scenes.

The work we have left behind, the work that waits our return, presses on our minds; we are tempted to think the moments so precious. Surely the prayer is longer than usual this morning: the reader is unusually slow; but at last it is over, we have done our duty, we have paid the tribute due to our Christian profession, we may hurry now to the real work of the day. These thoughts look appalling when translated into words, but is not this—at unhappy moments,—too true a picture of many a heart during family worship. Again, in secret prayer we are alone with God,—a direct demand is made on the powers of our own mind, the feelings of our own soul: in family worship one speaks for all; if our attention wanders, no one perceives

it; the service continues, the time passes, we consider the duty done, conscience is pacified, while God is mocked and insulted.

How then may we guard against the peculiar dangers which beset so blessed a service? Surely by no power of our own: men may mould the most perfect forms of statuary, but all mankind would fail in giving life to the meanest insect; so is it in the spiritual world; we may have the most perfect forms, the best outward arrangements, but when it comes to giving spiritual life to those forms, we are perfectly helpless, we can but seek the aid of that Spirit, who first breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life, and who alone breathes spiritual life into any of our services. Still let us not forget that while we are thus helpless, we are bidden to stir up ourselves to lay hold on God; while our arm is withered, we are bid to stretch it out: What may these commands mean, if not that it is whilst we are endeavouring to kindle our own languid feelings, the fire shall descend from heaven upon us; while we follow hard after God, his right hand shall uphold us?

Let us then stir up ourselves by striving to consider the end we have in view in family worship; a reasonable man takes reasonable means to attain his end; let us inquire the end we have in view, we shall then be able to say whether the means we are employing are suitable for its attainment. Do you aim in family worship to honour God? Oh in vain do you honor him by outward form and irreverent service! He has himself declared that it is an *abomination to him, he is weary to bear it.* Do you wish to act as is becoming a christian household? Indeed family

worship is most becoming in a christian household, it should throw a halo over the day. Those who have united in one prayer for each other's welfare in the morning, should seek each other's welfare through the day. Each family circumstance brought before God should be the salt of the day, preserving all from corruption. But your very salt has lost its savour, your family religion is poisoned in its fountain: talk not of your irreverent worship as that which is becoming in a Christian household. Do you wish to instruct your family—your servants? Have you then forgotten that example is far more powerful than precept, and that morning by morning, evening by evening, the chapter hastily read, the prayer irreverently hurried through, is impressing on the minds of your children and your servants the idea, that the least important, the most wearisome part of each day's work is the few minutes which custom requires to be given to God? Is it that you wish to gain for your family that blessing of the Lord which you know maketh rich? True, this blessing is promised to prayer, especially to united prayer, but it is promised to those who ask, who seek, who knock; not merely to those who meet together, kneel, and repeat prayers. Do not mistake God's word; it is full of promises to those who pray, but hearken to its solemn words to those who thoughtlessly repeat prayers; "*Use not vain repetitions as the heathen do, for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.*" Matt. vi. 7. One question more we would ask. —Is it your object to be considered a christian family? If so, this indeed you may gain. Man does not read the heart, irreverence of manner may be known no farther than

your immediate family circle: but listen to the cutting words of Jesus, *They have their reward!* You have struggled for a bubble, and verily you have obtained it. But can you, as immortal beings, rest content with it? If not, if any of the higher, holier aims we have named, are at all in your heart, oh! as reasonable men arouse yourselves, and see how unreasonable a means for their attainment your heartless worship has been.

But we may stir up our minds not only by the consideration of the blessing lost, in mere formal worship, but of the actual evil done. Consider the glorious Being whom you have mocked and insulted, by drawing near to Him with your lips while your hearts were far from him. Contrast the respect, the lively interest you would show to a superior in rank, who should for a few minutes honour your family circle with his company, with the weariness, the irreverence, you manifest when in family worship. You have directly invited among you the King of glory. Read how God complains of this your unreasonable conduct, Isaiah i. 10—18. Amos v. 21—24. Matt. i. 13, and say whether it be a light evil you have committed? Consider again the goodness and mercy which have attended you as a family through your whole course,—consider the new love and mercy each new morning brings, the watchful care that guarded you through the helpless hours of night,—the bright light of morning,—the awaking to health, peace, and safety,—the supply of daily wants, all the mercies that crowd round a family table; see a family thus blessed, meeting together, and declaring, (for oh remember our most secret thoughts have a voice in the ear

of the Most High,) declaring, that it is a weariness to them to return thanks to their Benefactor,—that they care not for his presence and protection through the day,—that the Saviour who died for them is an unwelcome guest. Is this a small evil? Consider it then in its aspect towards your own souls. Is it not truly said, Habit is a second nature; is it then a small evil in addition to all other difficulties, to lay upon your own souls the weight of a long habit of formal prayer?

Surely we have said enough to show the evil and danger of a formal family worship! we have indeed spoken more directly of those flagrant cases where a tone of impatience or lightness visibly pervades the service; the true nature of a sin is more easily discerned in its most open forms, but this does not render its first approaches the less dangerous. Our great enemy, wishing to lead us blindfold to destruction, seldom casts us down sudden precipices; the first descent towards evil is slow and gentle; family worship impatiently hurried over one day when business much pressed,—wandering thoughts admitted, sometimes unconfessed, unrepented of: it seemed so trifling, conscience gave no alarm, yet what hosts of dangers lurk behind these first trifling steps. Nor is this warning needless even to Christians in a christian household. Where the outward service is most solemn, fitted to be most refreshing, it is then a precious recal from the world's pressure, a blessed revival of the holy wishes and resolutions of secret prayer; the enemy well knows its value, nor will he spare his devices to engross to himself by wandering thoughts, minutes

otherwise so dangerous to him ; let us watch and pray, or surely we shall enter into temptation.

Something may perhaps be done to avoid the dangers we have described as attending family worship, by such domestic arrangements as shall provide carefully that there be no work that ought to be done during the time set apart for devotion ; otherwise the minds of some must be distracted between the duty they have been obliged to leave, and that more solemn one in which they are engaged ; we have no right to undertake more work than we can accomplish without infringing on God's hours in the day. Something also may perhaps in some families be done to bring the minds of those under instruction, more directly in exercise during family worship, so as to avoid the indifference attending mere listening ; but after all, the evil is in the heart, and it is to the heart the remedy must be applied : true prayer is communion and intercourse with God, but how shall we hold communion with God, while he is a stranger,—while, to use the awful language of Scripture, *we are at enmity with Him ?* Either His presence will be a source of harassing fear, or we shall shake it off altogether, and fill up the space with vain and wandering thoughts. It is useless to strive to cut off the wandering thoughts, the mind cannot remain empty ; unless God be a welcome guest, the world cannot be excluded. Here then, as ever, we are driven to Christ, the sinner's only refuge ?—sin has made us the strangers, the enemies of God, but Christ has taken away sin by the sacrifice of himself ; sin has shut the door between us and God, but through Christ we both have access by one Spirit unto the

Father; sin hid the love of God from our view, but the cross of Christ shows that love in such overpowering tenderness, that, when really believed it melts man's heart; he cannot hold out against such love, he feels his Father is reconciled. Now prayer or communion with that Father is sweet, the world is driven out, for the aching void is filled with something more satisfying.

The hardest sinner then has no reason to say, I cannot pray. God is reconciled to sinners in Christ; he has given a free invitation to draw near; only do not pretend to enjoy the pleasures of his Father's bosom, while you refuse to take a step to return to your Father's house. Till the heart be reconciled to God, whatever we may do to promote the outward decency of family worship, there will be no cure for its real formality.

ADDRESS OF THE HEAD OF A FAMILY ON BEGINNING FAMILY WORSHIP.

My dear Family and Friends,

The duty and importance of family prayer have determined me to begin this sacred service immediately, and to continue it regularly from this day, morning and evening.

All common excuses for neglecting it are wholly insufficient. To say that we have no time for such a duty is to suppose that all our time does not belong to God, and that our really profitable employment of it does not depend upon his blessing. All other employment of time may be expected to prosper as we openly acknowledge and honour him daily with a portion of that time which He has given us. To say that we are ashamed of owning God and his truth, before our fellow-men, is to bring ourselves under the terrible sentence—"Whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

There is far more danger in neglecting family prayer than in attending to it. We may possibly be sometimes inconvenienced in our employments, or we may possibly sometimes offend those whom we desire to oblige, by family worship, but it is a far more serious evil, by not duly

attending to the directions of God's holy word, in that employment of time which affects our eternal interest, to offend our highest and best friend, even the Almighty, who can alone make any other friendship delightful or profitable to us. It is his declared and solemn purpose to pour out his displeasure upon the families that call not upon his name, (Jer. x. 25.) and let us be more afraid of that wrath than any other displeasure. It is also his gracious promise that if we seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, all other things shall be added unto us: and let us trust that promise.

The examples of God's faithful servants, and the blessing which followed their conduct, furnished weighty and unanswerable reasons for this duty. Thus our God testified of Abraham: "I know Abraham, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment, that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He hath spoken of him." Gen. xviii. 19. Let us be followers of the faith of Abraham. Of Joshua, again, it is testified that he said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua xxiv. 15. Let this, by God's grace, be our purpose also.

We find, both in the Old and the New Testaments, that the devoted servants of God were men who honoured and worshipped God in their own dwellings.

We are brought together in God's providence as a family, not merely for our worldly comfort, and in order to provide for each other the comforts and conveniences and advantages of this life. We are brought together in the grace and loving-kindness of God, that we may be helpful to each other in higher and better interests; that we may be trained and educated in one family below, to fulfil the duties of this life towards all our fellow-creatures, and to be made meet to share in the privileges and joys of the great family of God, to be gathered together in His heavenly kingdom.

Created by one Almighty Father, redeemed by the blood

of one Lord, Jesus Christ, having all the promise of one Teacher, the Holy Ghost, and the hope of one eternal home; altogether dependent, as we all are, for life and breath, salvation and eternal glory, on the grace and goodness of the living and the true God, how right, and meet, and just it is, that we should daily together praise his name and implore his favour and blessing!

I trust, therefore, that nothing but absolute necessity will hinder us, from this time forward, from regularly assembling together morning and evening, for the purpose of reading the Scriptures and uniting in family worship, and, if practicable, singing together the praises of our great God and Saviour.

Only let us take care that we come together into the immediate presence of our God in family prayer, with seriousness and earnestness, with humility and reverence, looking to God himself to give us that spirit of grace and supplication without which our prayers will become a mere form and a solemn mockery, but with which we shall be strengthened and established, comforted and refreshed, in the way to our heavenly home.

It is the gracious promise of our Redeemer that where two or three are met together in his name, there He will be in the midst of them, and that when two of his disciples agree on earth touching anything to ask of God, he will do it for them. Let us, having full confidence in the faithfulness of these gracious promises, meet in his name. Let us not doubt but that He himself will be, though invisibly, yet really in the midst of us. Let us be sure that no true prayer made in his name shall be made in vain, or fail of obtaining for us that mercy, and grace, and blessing which we need for our present and eternal good.

We have also the gracious assurance of the word of God that Christ has entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us, and that he there ever liveth to make intercession for us, and to offer up the prayers of his people. We have also the faithful promise of God that his Spirit helps our infirmities, and when we know

not what to pray for as we ought, he makes intercession for the saints, according to the will of God.

I entreat, then, your assistance, my dear family, that this may not be the service of one, but of all; not the prayer of one leading the devotions, but the prayer of all, offering one united desire of the heart, in the sight of Him who is a Spirit, and requires that we worship him in spirit and in truth. Let us draw near to God with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience. May we thus become more and more united to Christ, our living Head, and then to each other, in him; more and more helpful to each other; and so preparing for fuller and higher joy in his presence through eternity.

[Read Psalm 1, or 101, or 127. Read or sing a hymn.*]

A FIRST FAMILY PRAYER.

Almighty and most merciful Father, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and who hast graciously promised that Thou wilt be the God of all the families of Israel and they shall be thy people; behold we come unto Thee in the Name of Christ Jesus, for Thou art the Lord our God.

Thou alone dost set the solitary in families, and fixest the bounds of our habitation, and canst build us up a sure house and make us to dwell in safety, and we acknowledge Thee to be the God of our family and the giver of our blessings. But, O Lord, if left to ourselves, we forget Thee and call not upon thy name, and bring upon ourselves thy righteous wrath. O Lord, pardon all our past neglect of thy worship and service, and grant us grace henceforth to honour Thee in our family, and, whatever others may do, to take up Joshua's holy purpose of heart—*As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

* See Family Hymns in the Author's Christian Psalmody.

Help us deeply to feel and ever to remember that except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it; that children and the fruit of the womb are an heritage and gift that come from Thee; and that a special blessing was given to Abraham for commanding his children and his household after him, to keep the way of the Lord and to do judgment and justice. Thou hast charged us to teach thy words diligently unto our children, and to talk of them when we sit in the house and walk by the way, when we lie down and when we rise up. Grant then, O Lord, that from this time forward we may have grace from Thee to meet together continually to read and hear thy word, to sing thy praise, and to worship Thee as a family. O do Thou most mercifully pour upon us the spirit of grace and supplication, and give unto us the seeing eye, the hearing ear, the understanding and believing and obedient heart, that we may be truly converted unto Thee and live.

Let our household be a Christian household, not in name only, but in truth; and may all our family plans and rules be ordered according to thy word. As masters and servants, parents and children, let us be wholly conformed to thy will, and our children be brought up in thy nurture. Enable us constantly, as a family, to walk worthy of the gospel, and to adorn in all things the doctrine of God our Saviour.

We now dedicate our house and family unto Thee. We avouch Thee, the Lord, this day, to be our God, and our purpose to be to walk in thy ways, and to keep thy statutes, and thy commandments, and thy judgments, and to hearken to the voice of thy commandments. O do Thou avouch us to be thy peculiar people, and that we shall keep thy commandments and be a holy people unto Thee, according to thy promise. O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in him our Father, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of our hearts, and prepare our hearts, and put thy fear within us, that we may never depart

from Thee. We beseech Thee to hear us, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Our Father which art in heaven ; hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come : Thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; but deliver us from evil : for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING BLESSING.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYERS:

First Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

FOR GRACE TO IMPROVE SABBATH PRIVILEGES.

Almighty and most merciful Father, who hast given us thy Sabbaths to be a sign betwixt Thee and us, and a foretaste and sure earnest of the eternal Sabbath which yet remains for thy people; we come to Thee in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ, that Son of Man, who is Lord of the Sabbath, and beseech Thee to assist us to keep this day holy, and not to receive thy grace in vain.

Our privileges indeed are great; thy house is ready and open to us; Thy ministers wait to instruct us; thy people come together: give us to discern that every Sabbath is a gracious opportunity for good; a sacred talent to be occupied for Thee.

We are indeed so sinful and so weak that we can do nothing of ourselves, but must in every thing look to Thee for grace and strength. If Thou do not give us the spirit of prayer, we are so alienated from Thee that we shall approach Thee only with a solemn mockery of holy words, while our hearts are full of worldliness. If Thou do not give us the spirit of hearing, we are so sunk in sin, that our minds will be wandering after every vanity. O Lord,

Thou canst give, and we know that when we ask in faith, Thou wilt give unto us an understanding, a believing, a loving, and an obedient heart. Fail not thus to bless us now. The good which we would, we do not, the evil which we would not, that we do. Our souls cleave to the dust. Evil habits have been long established in us, and we go on in the same course of mere formal worship, and continually find how hard it is for us, who are accustomed to do evil, to learn to do well. But Thou hast said, all things are possible with Thee ; all things are possible to him that believeth : come then with thy mighty power and succour us, and through a living faith enable us this day to worship Thee in spirit and in truth.

Bless thy ministers in all thy churches through the world. Enable them to be faithful stewards of thy mysteries. May fallen churches be restored ; reformed churches be revived and quickened ; freshly-planted churches be increased : the Babylon of Popery speedily fall, and the children of Zion be joyful in their King, and the glory of thy saints be perfected.

This day let many souls, now in nature's darkness, be made glad in thy light ; many loiterers in thy ways be quickened ; many backsliders healed ; and on every side the kingdom of Satan be diminished, and the government and kingdom in Him who is the Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, and the Everlasting Father, grow, extend, and be enlarged, till it embrace the whole habitable globe, and all the ends of the earth rejoice in thy salvation. Look also upon each solitary wanderer and sick one in his private chamber, and each voyager on the wide ocean, and give them Sabbath mercies. Let them know that Thou, the God of the Sabbath, art present in their solitude, and art able to bless them there. O Lord, hear us and answer us, for Jesus' sake.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

FOR A BLESSING ON THE WORD PREACHED.

Thanks be unto Thee, O our merciful Father, for the many and great religious advantages and spiritual privileges which we enjoy in our favoured land on this thy holy day. Truly may it be said to us, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see; for many prophets and kings have desired to see the things which ye see and have not seen them: and to hear the things which ye hear, and have not heard them. O Lord, may our privileges never turn to our greater condemnation. O Lord, let thy goodness lead us to repentance. May we bear in mind that every gift is given to a man to profit withal: and may knowledge, faith, humility, love and obedience ever follow in our souls the hearing of thy truth; enlighten thereby our minds, purify our hearts, and sanctify our lives.

We do earnestly implore of Thee to give unto us thy Holy Spirit, to bring to our remembrance what we have heard. Cause us all so to meditate upon thy truth day and night, that we may be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in due season.

Let us not deceive ourselves by judging, or by approving and commending what we hear; let us remember that thy words may be to us as a very lovely song, and yet we may be of those who hear them but do them not. O may thy truth have a real and constant and powerful influence upon every day and every hour of our lives, upon all our thoughts, and words and actions.

We pray for those who have assembled with us in thy house. Pardon all our infirmities and iniquities in thy worship and service, and give us the great blessings which we asked, because of our Advocate and High Priest, now in thy presence for us.

We pray for those who have been absent from public worship. Some have been kept by sickness, and others by

unavoidable hindrances, from the assemblies of thy people: grant unto them the visits of thy love and grace in their sick chamber, or wherever may be the place of their constrained absence. Others have kept away from thy house through wilful unbelief, sin, and disobedience; Oh give them true repentance and a better mind for the time to come; and make them, with us, to know what it is to be joyful in thy house of prayer.

O Lord, follow with thy largest blessing all the faithful labours of thy ministers. Give an abundant increase everywhere to the seed sown, and may the fruits of righteousness spring up on every side. Let the many, many prayers this day offered up by the countless multitudes of thy believing and devout people, in every land, bring down innumerable blessings on thy church, and, through the great Advocate, be a prevailing intercession with Thee for a sinful world. O let Israel at length know the blessedness of our Christian Sabbath and of our Lord's Day; believing in the resurrection of Jesus, and receiving the outpouring of his Spirit. Revive thy dying churches. Enlarge continually the kingdom of Christ; and let the whole earth be filled with his glory, for his name's sake. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

FOR A SENSE OF GOD'S LOVE.

O God, our gracious Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose presence and glory surround us on every side, shed abroad, through the Holy Ghost, thy love in Christ Jesus into our hearts. O may we all see how great is thy goodness! how great is thy beauty! and how excellent is thy loving-kindness! and let us all be numbered with the sons of men who put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Give us grace to live under the constant sense of thy holy love to us sinners. Lead us into the fulness of that

blessed truth,—that God is love, and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him. Let love, out of a pure heart, be the great animating, directing, and enlivening principle of our whole conduct, toward Thee and towards all men.

May the sermons yesterday preached by thy ministering servants here, and the instruction given, be a blessing to this place—to rich and poor, to young and old, to the children in the schools, and to the parents of the children. Extend the same blessing wherever thy Gospel has been proclaimed, far and wide. Let there not be one hearing thy truth, without gaining some quickening or strengthening grace from the truth preached.

May thy Church be animated by a believing view of the bliss of all thy saints now with thee in the heavenly Zion, and by the prospect of the resurrection-glory of thy Church in the day of Christ. Seeing this great cloud of witnesses, let us run with patience, day by day, the race that is set before us; may we lay aside every weight with which the world or Satan would encumber us, and the sin which does so easily beset us, and may we be ever looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

O Lord, hold Thou up our goings in thy paths; for only while Thou holdest us up are we safe. We are in the midst of snares and temptations, which we see not, or at best see very dimly. Do Thou then, who never slumberest nor sleepest, still watch over—keep and guard us, and inspire us with holy zeal, and courage, and devotedness in thy service.

Let the wicked all around be converted and turned to Thee: let the impenitent and unbelieving be brought to repentance and faith: and those burdened with sin and guilt come to Jesus and be relieved.

Bless this our family. Let it appear that we have been given to one another, and brought together in thy providence, to be a full blessing to each other in body and in soul, for time and for eternity. Oh let us all, through thy imparted grace, bring to one another that daily help and

comfort which Thou didst design for us, by our union as one family together.

And bless the whole family of God. Bring in the Jews ; bring in the Gentiles, and let it be said over the whole earth, Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity ! Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

PRAYER—A REST IN WEARINESS.

Great God, the God of the whole earth and of the highest heavens, our merciful Father, who wast in Christ Jesus reconciling the world unto thyself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, we beseech Thee to draw all our hearts now unto Thee. O grant that this our daily family prayer unto Thee, may not be a burden, but our joy and delight; give us to engage in it, not merely because the habit and order of the family require us to do so, but as a real relief and comfort to our souls ; may we never be weary of it, nor weary in it, but ever find a refreshment in our weariness and a rest from our cares.

We desire to thank Thee from the heart for all the mercies of this day ; our many wants have been supplied ! we have been spared and blessed, and every thing which has happened to us has been according to thy gracious providence : We thank Thee for the joys and the sorrows, the mercies and the trials of this day ; all come from Thee in love ; and oh, give us to know that, loving Thee, all will work for our best good. Help us to rejoice in Thee, the Lord, always, and in every thing to give thanks.

We confess to Thee our many sins. Whether we look at our thoughts, words, or works ; in the morning, at midday, in the afternoon, or in the evening, we have not, as we ought, had a lively sense of thy presence, nor sought with full purpose of heart thy glory, nor walked with Thee all the day long, nor taken up as we should, self-

denying work and duty. Vain and worldly thoughts have too much possessed our souls, and made us like those who live as without God in the world. We have not called on Thee. We have been weary of Thee. Blot out all our transgressions for thy name's sake, and remember our sins no more. Renew our souls, by thy grace, and make us pure, even as thou art pure, and meet for the inheritance of the saints in light.

Make all the changing scenes of this life to work for our spiritual and eternal good! Make our eye single and our whole body full of light.

Bless every member of our family, the master and the servants, the children and the relatives, our friends and our neighbours; let all receive a blessing from Thee through our prayers. Help us to be lovers of hospitality and lovers of good men. May our church and our country be protected, preserved and prospered continually, through thy watchful care and good providence from day to day.

Give us a lively interest in the prosperity of thy whole church, and the increase of thy kingdom. O Lord, grant these great blessings; speedily deliver thy people who may have been deceived by popery, from that mystery of iniquity, and fulfil thy promises to destroy the Man of Sin with the brightness of thy coming. Faithfully accomplish thy promised truth and mercy to Zion, and let all the ends of the earth see thy salvation. O grant our requests, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

STRENGTH FOR DAILY DUTY.

Almighty and Eternal God, now present with us, thine eye upon every heart, thine ear open to every desire, and waiting now to be gracious to us in Christ Jesus, give us ever to feel that it is our richest privilege to approach thy throne of grace. We now seek of Thee those things which are needful for our souls and for our bodies, which Jesus

alone is worthy to receive for us, and which He is exalted to bestow upon us.

Assist us in all that lies before us this day. Be present with us in every thing in which we are engaged. In study and in labour, in silence and in conversation, in company and in retirement, in business and in relaxation, at home and abroad, in trials and in joys, Oh, still be near to our souls ; and in all the varied circumstances of this day, let our fullest joy be in Thy presence, our one desire to do thy will, and our great object to be approved by Thee.

We are very far from thy mind and thy image, blessed Lord Jesus. We feel the inward workings of pride and vanity, self-will, and earthly-mindedness, but oh make us like thyself, meek and lowly, and delighting to do God's will ; and with one mind may we seek the glory of our Heavenly Father.

We are weak to do what thy Spirit in us has taught us to desire. We fall unless thou sustain us. Hold thou up our goings in thy paths, that our footsteps slip not. Impress so deeply and strongly upon our minds the sense of our own sinfulness and weakness, that we may be constantly looking to thee for righteousness and strength, and receiving out of the fulness of Christ the grace which we need. O may that abundance of grace which bringeth salvation, effectually teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. Help us in each duty of this day, whether towards Thee, ourselves, our family, our kindred, or society. May we be the earnest and *simple-hearted* followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, not slothful in business, but fervent in spirit, serving the Lord ; kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love, in honour preferring one another. Assist us in all the temptations and difficulties of the day, and make us ready to seize all its opportunities of doing good. Give us wisdom to discern what our own duties are, and grace in patient diligence and self-denial to fulfil them ; and through all, may sweet intercourse in secret with our God be our hidden joy and consolation.

God Almighty, bless not only our family, but the fam-

ilies whom we know and love. Multiply thy grace and peace upon all around us. Regard with thy favour our beloved church and country, and make them a full blessing to all nations ; especially may we shew love to Zion, and so inherit the promise,—"They shall prosper that love Thee."

Accept our grateful thankgivings for blessings without number to our bodies and our souls, to our families and to our friends, this day continued and multiplied to us. But, above all, we praise Thee for thine unspeakable gift, Jesus our Lord, and our Saviour, to whom with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

FOR FULFILLING PRESENT DUTY IN HOPE OF COMING GLORY, AND FOR PROTECTION.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the King of glory, exalted at the right hand of God to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give us repentance and remission of sins, Thou hast promised that where two or three are met together in thy name, Thou art in the midst of them ; enable us in faith to approach now unto Thee, and give unto us repentance and remission of sins. Thou hast invited the weary and the heavy-laden to come unto Thee, and take upon them thy easy yoke and thy light burden, that they may find rest for their souls : give us grace thus to come unto Thee and obtain rest.

Almighty Father, draw us unto Jesus, that we may come to him and be raised up by him at the last day. Oh, that our daily life may be a constant coming to Christ, a constant receiving out of his fulness, a life of continual faith in the Son of God. Give us of his Spirit very largely : cause us to know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.

Do Thou, Merciful God, enliven and enlarge our hopes of thy future glory in our earth, when all shall know Thee from the least to the greatest. Give us, in the midst of present abounding sin, to feel the power of those holy promises which show us that the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea. Hasten thy coming and thy kingdom. In the meanwhile may we fulfil our present duties, our daily work, doing all as unto the Lord.

Bless the church to which we belong, the parish in which we reside, and all the ministers of Christ in every place, and send forth every where more labourers into thy harvest. Bless especially our own beloved country, and all efforts for the increase of Divine knowledge in it, and for its spiritual as well as temporal welfare. When the enemy comes in like a flood, O Spirit of the Lord, lift up a standard against him. Clothe thy priests with thy righteousness, and make thy people joyful in thy salvation. Let thy word descend as the rain and the dew, and refresh our weary land, that it may become as a fruitful field and a vineyard of the Lord's planting.

We would now lie down at peace with Thee and with our fellow-men. Protect us by thy good providence from every evil during the defenceless hours of sleep ; refresh us with quiet repose, and let us awake with Thee present to our thoughts in the morning. Oh that we may so measure our days as to know how frail we are and how short our time is.

Regard each of us and of our relations according to our individual wants, and give to each that mercy, grace, and strength which we individually require, for our special temptations, dangers, sins, and necessities, according to the fulness of thy love in Jesus our only Lord and Saviour.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR MERCY, AND PRAYER FOR FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE.

O God whose eyes are over the righteous, and thine ears open to their prayer, through our Advocate Jesus Christ the righteous, we, though we have sinned, call upon Thee. He is the propitiation for our sins, enable us then to trust only in his name: and while one is speaking with the lips, may the hearts of all with one accord be ascending unto Thee in earnest prayer and supplication by Jesus Christ.

We bless Thee, O our God, for all the mercies restored to us afresh this morning. We praise, we magnify thy holy name for the food which nourishes us, the warmth which cheers us, [the cold which invigorates us], the raiment which covers us, the light which shines around us, the air which we breathe, the habitation which shelters us, the joy and communion which we have in one another's love, our common salvation, our common hope of glory, our Divine Saviour Jesus, our one teacher and sanctifier the Holy Ghost, our one glorious Father, and our one eternal home. How vast the treasure which Thou hast given to us! What a circle of mercies and blessings surround us, how great, how numberless, how eternal! Forgive our ingratitude and disregard of mercies, the loss of which would soon bring sorrow and distress upon us. Let us not forget all thy benefits, but daily live to thy praise.

And now we entreat Thee to give us that precious gift of faith, by which unseen and eternal things shall become living realities, influencing our daily conduct. While we thank Thee for goodness so great in all that is past, we commit unto Thee all that is before us. We know not what may be our trials and temptations, what unexpected events may arise, but all is known unto Thee. Preserve us from the snares of our great enemy. Let not the world, the flesh, or the devil, seduce, entrap, pollute, or destroy

our souls, but keep us by thy power through faith unto salvation. Make us ready to every good work, shewing mercy with cheerfulness. May we be prompt to seize opportunities of doing good. Especially let our souls be growing in faith, and hope, and love. And whether health or sickness, sorrow or joy, life or death, ease or suffering be before us, may all be working for our good. May our souls be ripening for thy heavenly kingdom; may we daily be preparing and growing in readiness for the coming of our heavenly Lord.

Bless thy church universal. Unite the hearts of thy faithful people as the heart of one man in the belief and love of thy truth. O hasten that day when Satan shall be bruised under our feet; when the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever and ever; when sorrow and sighing shall flee away, and those new heavens and that new earth be created wherein dwelleth righteousness.

O Lord, hear us, and receive our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND PRAYER FOR HELP; FOR A BLESSING ON RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

Almighty God, our most merciful Father, who gavest thy Son Jesus to suffer for our sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to Thee! may thy Holy Spirit so teach us what he has done for us, that with our whole hearts we may come to Thee in entire confidence and joyful love.

Gratefully we acknowledge together thy loving-kindnesses in the day which is past. How constant and how good is thy providence to us! How rich and how free is thy grace! How full thy love in all thy dealings with us! Nor can we doubt of thy love to us sinners, when we

know that Christ died for our sins and rose again for our justification.

But, O Lord, how unmindful have we been this day of thy presence, thy will, and thy glory. Christ ought to dwell in our hearts by faith, but vain thoughts and earthly occupations, and the vanities of this world, have filled our minds and shut out the Saviour. We come then to Thee for pardon and peace. Sprinkle afresh the blood of Jesus upon our consciences. Enable us to wash our robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb.

And give us grace with full purpose of heart to yield ourselves more entirely to Thee for the time to come. Oh give us to love Thee unfeignedly, and serve Thee unreservedly, and with our whole hearts; walking before Thee in all thy ways, with an upright and willing mind.

May we fulfil cheerfully, as unto the Lord, every duty which we owe to one another, as masters ruling in thy fear; as servants serving the Lord Christ; as parents bringing up our children for Thee; as children obedient to our parents in the Lord. Thus let thy name be glorified in our consistent Christian course day by day.

We thank Thee for all that Thou art doing by Religious Societies both at home and abroad. Lord, prosper every design to do good to the bodies and to the souls of men—all efforts for building churches: maintaining ministers of Christ, spreading either thy holy word or edifying books, sending missionaries to Jews or to Gentiles. Bless all who conduct, support, or labour in these societies, and make them all effective for promoting thy glory in the salvation of our fellow-men.

Again we commend ourselves to thy care. Watch over us as a family for good; let no change occur amongst us without its designed blessing being realized to us: make us every day dearer to one another, and more ready to fulfil the law of Christ, by bearing each other's burdens.

Oh hear us, and answer us, according to the fulness of thy mercy in Christ Jesus. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

TO RECEIVE OUT OF GOD'S SUFFICIENCY WHAT WE NEED.

Almighty Father, our one, our Heavenly Parent, in the name of Jesus Christ we approach unto Thee, desiring to see by faith Thee who art invisible. Give us all access unto Thee through one Spirit. Thou art the Lord, the Holy One, the Creator of Israel, our King, and besides Thee there is no Saviour.

O Lord, our minds are dull and cold towards Thee: our affections are grovelling : our souls cleave to the dust ; and in many things, we have all offended in thy sight. We believe that Thou hast given all things pertaining to life and godliness to us in Christ Jesus, and we come to Thee for pardon, for life, and for strength. Enable us to discern the reality of heavenly and eternal things, to receive thy grace with a glad heart, and by faith in the Son of God, to overcome the world. In the midst of our folly pity us, and spare us, and impart to us heavenly wisdom. In our weakness let thy strength be perfected. Enable us to live in the constant recollection of the judgment to come, and remembering the solemn account then to be rendered, let us now live in thy fear, and obey thy commands all the days of our life. Give us that which Thou seest good, though we know it not, and even dread it as evil. Take from us that which Thou seest to be evil, though we may ignorantly desire it. Supply all our need out of thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Enlighten our minds to know Jesus Christ as the precious gift of God, and in the full knowledge of Christ, we would now seek from the Saviour that living water which springeth up to everlasting life.

O Thou who sparedst not thine own Son, assuring us thereby that Thou wilt with him give us all things, we ask especially for spiritual blessings and heavenly graces, and hearts enlarged with love towards all men. Let us not love in word and in tongue, but in deed and in truth, that we may know we are of the truth, and assure our

hearts before thee: we beseech Thee to make us a full blessing to our fellow creatures.

About to enter upon the duties which Thou hast this day given to us to walk in, we ask grace to fulfil them in thy name; and seek thy glory as the one great end of all to be done by us. May we all live as in thy presence; each striving to fulfil his work appointed by Thee, and in every thing seeking to do thy will. Deliver us from a dissatisfied and murmuring spirit, and give us a grateful and thankful heart, filled with love to Thee.

Bless our family, our neighbourhood, our church, our country, and all in authority over us. Guard us from all foes and all dangers, whether national or spiritual. Bless thy people Israel, and enlarge thy kingdom continually, till the whole earth rejoice in the dominion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hear us for his name's sake, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

THANKSGIVING FOR CHRIST, PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND FOR HELP TO THE AFFLICTED.

O most merciful and heavenly Father, give unto us thy quickening grace, that now, when we bow our knees unto Thee, we may fully believe that Thou art here present, and a rewarder of all them who diligently seek thee. Oh give us thine own Spirit, that we may come before Thee, not in form, but in power; not in carelessness, but in reverence; not with a doubtful mind, but in full confidence of heart, looking to him who is at thy right hand, ever living to make intercession for us.

We praise together thy goodness for all our daily mercies: our temporal blessings are all from Thee: our religious privileges we owe to thy free favour: our spiritual blessings are all thy gift. But most emphatically and above all, we bless Thee for the great gift, the peculiar

gift, the unspeakable gift, thy only-begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ ; who came into the world for us, sinners, and took upon him our nature—sympathizing with us redeeming us, and assuring us thereby that Thou wilt with him also freely give us all things.

In his name then we ask for a yet further gift, infinitely needful to us, even thine own Holy Spirit, to teach us, to dwell in us, to sanctify us, and to comfort us. Grant that He may constantly dwell in us ; guarding us from all error on the right hand and on the left, and guiding us into all truth. Bestow upon us that precious gift of faith, which was imparted to thy servants of old, and by which out of weakness, they were made strong and overcame the wicked one. Give unto us that most excellent gift of charity, which thinketh no evil, and suffereth long, and is kind, and never faileth. Oh let us supremely, ardently, and intensely love thee, and delight in thee, and thence love all our fellow-men.

Forgive freely, fully, and for ever, all our past sins, as we would now forgive all others who may have trespassed against us. Thou knowest, O Lord, all our sinfulness, temptations, and dangers, but there is forgiveness with Thee, and thereby Thou wilt be feared. Let us fear to grieve our God, who pardoneth our iniquity, and do Thou assist us effectually to shew forth thy praise, by a life devoted to Thee.

Hear us for the afflicted, the suffering, the cast down, and the sorrowful. Hear us for the stranger, the captive, the tempted, and the endangered. Hear us for those who have lost what they valued most on earth : we beseech Thee thereby to take occasion to give them fuller and richer blessings which shall endure to everlasting life.

Let us, as a family, continually edify one another in love, and let bonds now be knit together, uniting us more and more in Christ Jesus, which shall be lasting as eternity : so that though our earthly union may be severed for a season, our spiritual and heavenly union may be perfected and completed for ever, in thy coming kingdom and glory, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

GRACE SOUGHT THROUGH CHRIST FOR OURSELVES, OUR CHURCH, AND OUR COUNTRY.

O Thou good and gracious God, who hast so loved our lost world that thou gavest thine only-begotten Son to be a sacrifice for our sins, we, thy sinful creatures, redeemed by his blood, come unto thee by that once crucified and now exalted Lord and Saviour. Draw us and we will run after Thee. Oh take possession of our whole souls, and make us willing to give ourselves unreservedly unto Thee.

Give unto us pardon, peace, and holiness, and all those things which thou seest to be needful and good for our souls, and turn away from us wrath, and condemnation, and sin, and all those things which Thou seest to be hurtful to us. We indeed deserve not the good, and justly merit the evil ; but Jesus appears as a Lamb slain in the midst of the throne in heaven for us ; He is worthy to receive all good, and we ask all in his name.

Assist us each to go through our appointed duties this day. May we study to be quiet, and each in our station to do our own business, and to work with our own hands. Impress so strongly upon our minds the sense of our utter insufficiency to think any good of ourselves, that we may constantly be looking to thee for strength. Help us to be patient in trials, persevering in difficulties, meek under injuries, forbearing under provocations, and firm amidst temptations. Enable us to resist the devil, overcome the world, and crucify the flesh. Let none of us fail in our duties to one another ; nor look on our own things only, but on the things of others also : help us to warn the unruly, comfort the feeble minded, support the weak, and be patient toward all, ever following that which is good among ourselves and toward all men.

We pray especially for the church established in our country, and for all its bishops, priests and deacons. Give

all to discern their great responsibility, as belonging to a church thou hast so favoured in this land from age to age, and especially by repeated deliverances from the wiles and tyranny of Rome.

And, oh look upon this nation which thou hast so highly exalted among all nations, and to which thou hast given such extended dominion and power in all parts of the earth, and such wide-spread opportunities of being useful to all nations. May our beloved country generally and nationally, rise to that high and blessed office to which she is now called, of diffusing the glorious light of thy gospel through the world. Let our Monarch be as a Cyrus to returning Israel ; let our statesmen be like Daniel and Nehemiah, ruling in thy fear and faith and love ; and may holiness to the Lord be inscribed on all our possessions, commerce and wealth, that thus we may be a blessing to every land, through Jesus Christ, our all-sufficient Helper and Redeemer. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

TO KNOW AND LOVE GOD.—FOR OUR PARISH AND THE CHURCH.

O Everlasting God, the Lord of heaven and of earth ; the King eternal, immortal, and invisible ; the only wise God ; the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we worship together at thy mercy-seat. Give us now to see Thee as Thou art, and to delight ourselves in Thee, that we may desire those things which please thee, and now have those things which we spread before Thee in prayer.

Give us, by thine own Spirit, the full assurance of faith that Jesus has reconciled both Jew and Gentile unto Thee in one body, by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby. Give us to acquaint ourselves thus with Thee and be at peace. Circumcise our hearts to love Thee. May we joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have received the atonement, and let this joy be our strength.

We acknowledge, with shame, and humiliation, that we are sinful and helpless creatures, guilty and wretched, polluted and unclean, in thy sight; yet by Jesus, even such are invited to approach unto Thee, and encouraged to hope for thy saving grace. Oh visit us then with thy salvation; satisfy us early with thy mercy.

Give unto us a firm and stedfast mind to walk in newness of life, to do all to thy glory, and to set the Lord always before us, in all our daily occupations, even the humblest. May we be assured that they are really appointed for us by Him, who knows what is best for us, and who has pleasure in his saints' fear of Him, and showing their love to Him in the diligent fulfilment of their daily duties.

Oh help us to remember the solemn testimony of thy word, that the end of all things is at hand: and thence to be sober, to watch unto prayer, and above all things to have fervent charity towards others, even that charity which covers the multitude of sins. Clothe us with humility. Make us pitiful and courteous, and enable us to show forth all Christian graces, to the glory of thy name and the good of all around us.

Bless our family: according to the necessities of each of us, as manifest in thy sight, give to each suitable and seasonable grace and help. And if any of us are yet unconverted, Oh give thou to them a new heart and a new spirit, and strengthen and renew all our souls for thy service.

Bless our parish, its ministers and its people, its schools and its religious societies, its rich and its poor, the prosperous and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, giving to each the good which Thou seest that each severally need.

Bless the whole Church and family of God every where. We pray for the peace of Jerusalem. We pray for the free progress of thy word in all lands. We pray thee to bless all missionaries among Jews or Gentiles, and at length fulfil all thy promises, in the universal triumph of the holy and happy kingdom of Jesus throughout the world. Oh answer us for His name's sake. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PREPARATION FOR THE SABBATH, AND FOR THE OVERTHROW OF SATAN.

O righteous God, the God of mercy and pity in Christ Jesus, even to sinful needy creatures like us, who in this day of grace call upon Thee, through Christ, receive us now approaching unto Thee. Fulfil unto us thy gracious promise, Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you. Oh give us thine own Spirit, that we may truly draw nigh to Thee, not in form only, but with a believing, thirsting, and loving heart. All thanks and praise, adoration and love be unto Thee, O Father, for innumerable mercies day by day multiplied unto us, and especially for the gift of Jesus Christ, and his great and free salvation.

Give us thy blessing in all which lies before us this day. May we now receive, out of the fulness of Christ, all that our souls require. O let the lusts of the flesh be mortified and crucified, and the fruits of the Spirit increase and abound in us. Help us to set the Lord before us in every thing this day, that his will may be our will, to be like him our great desire, and his glory our aim in all which we say and do.

Bless thy ministers in their studies, prayers, and preparation for their public labours on the morrow. Let all who call upon thy name remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy : making this day, every personal and family arrangement which will enable them the more devoutly to observe the Sabbath. May the day be set wholly apart for its privileges and duties ; and earnestly may we this day in secret seek thy blessing on all the public means of grace on the morrow.

Look upon a world lying in wickedness, in the fulness of thy mercy and compassion. Cut short the days of sin and the triumphs of Satan, who now reigns as the god of this world ; and hasten the coming and full dominion of

the rightful King and Lord, our blessed Redeemer and only Saviour.

Regard, we beseech thee with thy favour, our Queen, and the Royal Family, and the Ministers of State. We beseech Thee to give heavenly grace to all bishops, priests, and deacons, and all appointed to minister in holy things. Continue the blessing of peace, preserve us from entering upon any unrighteous wars, or suffering by unjust aggressions of others. Make us a penitent and believing people, fearing God and working righteousness.

Bless us as a family. Let the bonds of family love be multiplied and strengthened, and become eternal, by our seeking chiefly and supremely the spiritual good of one another. Oh answer us, for our Redeemer's sake.

SATURDAY EVENING.

PRAISE, CONFESSION, AND A BLESSING ASKED FOR THE SABBATH.

O thou blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who only hast immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen or can see, to Thee be honour and power everlasting. We worship Thee, we bless thy holy name, and we now together at thy footstool, exalt, extol and magnify Thee, as the one living, true and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, our God and our Saviour.

O Thou, who in thy wonderful love hast testified to us, thy sinful creatures, that whoso offereth Thee praise glorifieth Thee; and in thy rich grace to us, hast called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light, that we should be a peculiar people to show forth thy praise, all glory be to Thee! In every thing enable us to give thanks unto Thee! In every thing may we order our conversation aright, that thou mayest show unto us thy salvation.

O Lord another week of mercies innumerable, and to our deep humiliation, of innumerable sins, is now closing

upon us. It cannot be recalled, but thy day of grace continues, and Thou givest to all liberally and upbraidest not ; give us then pardon and peace, give us repentance and faith, give us holiness and thine own image and likeness. We ask for a full blessing on the approaching Sabbath. Let it be to us a day of great spiritual gain and advantage. Prepare us and make us ready by thy grace, to receive thy word into an honest and good heart, and to keep it. Give unto us meekness and lowliness, for Thou hast said, the meek thou wilt guide in judgment ; give us faith, for Thou hast said of thy people of old, the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. Teach us to hunger and thirst after righteousness, seeing that Thou, O Jesus, hast said that such are blessed and shall be filled.

O let us enter into thy courts with joy and praise, and experience the full truth of thine own word—Blessed are the people that know the joyful sound, they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance ; in thy name shall they rejoice all the day, and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted. O may this be fulfilled to each one of us.

Bless especially all thy ministers : send them help from the sanctuary, and strengthen them out of Zion. Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness, and let thy saints shout for joy. Let thy Spirit come down on all the assemblies of thy people in every land, like rain upon the mown grass, and as showers that water the earth. Lengthen out, if it be thy will, the days of peace and tranquillity, that multitudes now forgetting Thee, may at length account that the long-suffering of our God is salvation, and turn to Thee. O Lord, grant that thy people may be diligent to be found of Thee in peace, without spot and blameless ; and a waiting church and bride may all be prepared to go out and meet the returning Bridegroom, even Jesus our beloved Lord and Head, and to enter with him to the marriage-supper of the Lamb. Hear us for his name's sake.

Second Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR SABBATH MERCIES.

Almighty Father, who hast revealed thyself to us as the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty : through Jesus Christ, help us to see this thy glory. By him who is now sitting at thy right hand, and who ever liveth to make intercession for us, we together adore and magnify thy holy name.

Another Sabbath of grace and mercy now is before us. We bless Thee for its many privileges ; for thy house open to receive us ; thy ministers ready to instruct us ; and that we may now peacefully assemble together and worship in thy courts, none making us afraid. We thank Thee for that wonderful grace to all who believe in Christ, that Thou dost account them a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people. May we rise to our high privileges, and ever show forth thy virtues and thy praises in the world.

But now, O Lord, we bring before Thee our great difficulty and trouble in the midst of our religious privileges. All on thy part is prepared and ready, but we have often found, by sad experience, that we are unready. Our

minds are carnal, worldly, and earthly : our souls cleave to the dust : innumerable vain imaginations and worldly thoughts distract and fill our minds ; we lose the sense of thy nearness, and with the words of prayer on our lips, find innumerable vanities defiling our inner man.

Oh send thy mighty Spirit into our hearts, effectually to aid us against Satan and our inward foes. Give us this day to know the power, and reality, and glory of true prayer, and to obtain strength in thy service, and grace to do thy will.

Bless each of us, too, in those opportunities of aiding others in the way to Zion, which thy providence may open before us. Let us feel it to be a real privilege, if we can but give the simplest lesson of divine truth to an infant mind, or a poor and ignorant fellow-creature, for whom Jesus has shed his blood, knowing that Thou canst make that lesson effectual to the salvation of their souls, and so give us joy in the day of Christ.

Bless all thy people, wherever they meet in thy name or remember thy Sabbath. Whether they be in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, in the countless isles of the sea, or on the trackless ocean : Wherever thy people gather together in the name of Jesus ; wherever they worship Thee ; there be with them, and give testimony to the power of thy word and to the blessedness of prayer, and raise their hopes to that rest which remaineth for the people of God. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

PRAYER THAT MERCIES MAY NOT BE RECEIVED IN VAIN, AND CONFESSION OF SINS.

Almighty Father, who from the beginning didst bless and sanctify the seventh day as a day of rest ; divine Redeemer, Lord of the Sabbath, after whom we name this day as the Lord's day, commemorating thereon thy resurrection from the grave ; Holy Spirit the Comforter, who

didst on this day impart thy wonderful gifts to the early church of Christ; we worship Thee, the living and the true God. We praise Thee for all thy peculiar goodness to us, in the innumerable privileges and blessings of this holy day. We had not our birth in savage and barbarous lands, or in heathen countries where no Sabbath mercies bless their inhabitants; we had not our birth in Mahomedan or Papal Apostacy, where the true light of the gospel has ceased to shine; but in thy special kindness to us we had our birth in this favoured protestant land, where thy Sabbath is honoured by national protection, and we have such abundant advantages for becoming wise unto salvation. All glory be to thy holy name, that these advantages have been continued to us to this day, and that we have now been partaking of the means of grace in thy house, worshipping with thy people, hearing thy word, and singing thy praise.

But, O Lord, help us to remember that Chorazin and Bethsaida heard the preaching of Christ, and rejecting it, sunk into lower condemnation than Tyre and Sidon which never heard it. We earnestly beseech thee to grant that we may not receive the grace of God in vain; that we may know that this is the accepted time, the day of salvation; and that every one of us in this our day may know the things which make for our peace, and follow after peace and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

Pardon, then, our innumerable infirmities in thy service. Through our sinfulness, even all our worship is polluted and unclean, most humbling and abasing. Oh cast us not away from thy presence, because of our formality and hypocrisy, which we now mourn before Thee, but look upon that great High Priest who for us stands in thy presence, bearing the iniquity of our holy things, and presenting all the prayers of thy people unto Thee; and by him, give unto us, sinful though we be, the great blessings which we have been asking this day.

And, O Lord, pour out of thy Spirit on all flesh. Grant that in all the churches of Christ, throughout the world,

the fruit of a faithful ministry of thy word may abound to thy glory. Let all thy people grow in knowledge and in holiness ; in faith, hope, and love ; in nearness to Thee ; and so in nearness to one another : till, at length, we all come, in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ, to whom with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, three persons and one God, be all honour and glory, now and evermore. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

FAITH SOUGHT, WITH GRACE TO REMEMBER THE WORD PREACHED.

Almighty Father, the Father of spirits, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we, thy sinful Children, approach now thy throne of grace. In the name of thy only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, the first-born among many brethren, the head of the family who is now in thy courts above for us, we come unto Thee. O give us true and living faith in him ; never let us rest in a dead and vain faith, but give us that mighty faith which, clinging to omnipotence, conquers this world, works by love, and brings forth all righteousness. Enable us to take, each for ourselves, thine own word as the only true warrant and ground of faith ; making thy truth our sure confidence, thy commands our guide, and thy covenant our stay and strength ; and so by thy precious promises, may we become partakers of the divine nature, and escape the corruptions that are in the world through lust.

Preserve us, O our heavenly Father, from the spirit of this world, in its covetousness, its ambition and love of pleasure. Preserve us from the spirit of rashness and presumption, the spirit of enmity and vain glory. Oh keep us from vain presumption. Deliver us from all unbelief, selfishness, self-indulgence, worldliness, and dis-

obedience and give us self-denial, self-sacrifice, and entire obedience to all thy revealed will.

Let the truths which we yesterday heard from thy word be remembered this day, and influence and govern our whole conduct. Let not our hearts be like the way side or the stony, or the thorny ground, but make them like the good ground, keeping the word and bringing forth fruit in due season. May we remember the solemn responsibility of our great and many religious privileges, and the fearful woe pronounced on Chorazin and Bethsaida. Especially let us remember our sacramental vows, whether at the baptismal font or at the holy communion ; let them not be regarded by us as a light thing, neither let us be slack in fulfilling our vows.

Give us thy blessing in the duties of another day. Whatever we do, may we do it heartily, as unto the Lord and not unto men, and give us the sense of thy favour to cheer our souls in all that we do. May the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper thou the work of our hands, yea, prosper thou our handy work.

Bless abundantly the labours of thy ministering servants throughout the world. Bless especially our ministers, our parish, our neighbourhood. May our fellow-worshippers, yesterday, strengthened and refreshed by thine ordinances, begin with us in renewed zeal the duties of another week. Comfort all in sorrow. Succour the tempted. Be with the sick and the dying. Visit Israel in mercy. Come Lord Jesus, come quickly. O heavenly Father, fill the earth speedily with thy glory, through the mediation, and in the triumphant and universal kingdom and dominion of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore.

MONDAY EVENING.

FOR COMMUNION WITH GOD, AND PARDON IN CHRIST; PRAISE FOR FAMILY MERCIES.

Almighty Father, who art about our path and about our bed, always present, and acquainted with all our ways, we beseech thee make us ever mindful of thy presence. Give us such a knowledge of thy grace and glory in Christ Jesus, and such an acquaintance with thyself, that we may evermore delight in Thee, and find in thy presence fulness of joy. Grant us to know the rich privilege of communion with our Almighty Friend, whose ear is ever open to our cry, and whose hand is ever ready to help and defend us.

We acknowledge together before Thee, that in the past day we have all, in many things, offended in thy sight, especially by forgetfulness of Thee, by impenitence in our sins, by unbelief, by worldliness, and by neglect of thy glory. We have sinned by forsaking thy ways, and by turning every one to our own.

Enable us all to see this our sinfulness in thy sight, and truly to believe each one in our own heart, that Jesus is the only, the all-sufficient propitiation for our sins; and give unto us simple, and true, and lively faith in his blood. Oh let us all behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world; and, looking unto Jesus, give us to find peace and joy, righteousness and strength.

O Lord, we thank Thee and give Thee glory for all the many mercies which we enjoy. It is through thy goodness that those at the head of this family desire to acknowledge and worship Thee, value thy truth, and seek to guide their family as becomes a Christian household. We bless Thee for every family mercy, for all our domestic comforts. We thank Thee for the good word of thy truth, translated into the language of the land in which we were born, and so freely and fully circulated among us, that

every one may hear and read in his own tongue the wonderful works of God.

But above all we thank Thee for thy best gift, the Lord Jesus Christ. O make Him daily more precious to our souls, and make us daily more like unto him in all things, through the quickening, transforming, and sanctifying grace of thy Spirit, freely given to us through him.

Bless, we beseech Thee, all mankind. Bless especially our church and our country, and the Church of Christ everywhere. Unite thy people, as one family throughout the world. Multiply the peace-makers, and put an end to strife, debate, and divisions among thy children. Fulfil thy promises to the Jews, and speedily discover to them Jesus as their Messiah. Bless our parish, our relations, our Christian friends. Do good to them that hate and injure us, even the best good, by converting and renewing their souls. Multiply blessings on our benefactors, and on all who pray for us. O Lord Jesus, shortly accomplish the number of thine elect, and hasten thy kingdom, for thy name's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

TO TAKE UP THE CROSS—PRAISE FOR EARTHLY AND HEAVENLY BLESSINGS.

O Thou who art a faithful Creator, and hast encouraged and charged us to commit our souls unto Thee in well-doing, when called to suffer as Christians, we beseech Thee, enable all of us daily to take up our cross; to deny ourselves and follow Christ; casting all our care on Thee who carest for us.

We bless Thee that thy mercies are renewed to us every morning, and we raise unto Thee a new song of thanksgiving for the fresh blessings of this day. By Jesus our only Mediator and Advocate, who has made full atonement for all our sins, and by whom all things are ours, we offer up our thanksgivings unto Thee: sleep and waking

food and clothing, warmth and shelter, social endearment and family blessedness, are all of Thee ; and by them too would we rise to the higher spiritual blessings with which we are daily blessed, and magnify Thee for Jesus Christ our Lord, our best robe, our meat indeed, our surest friend, our light, our refuge, our life and our glory, now and evermore.

Let thy holy word not only be read and heard by us, but be an incorruptible seed of good things in our hearts and conversation and whole life.

Be with us through this day's duties and trials and joys and sorrows. Make us ready to every good work, and sensitive and quick to discern thy will and to turn from all that is evil. Let the light of a future judgment shine so clearly in our minds as to govern all we say and do. Keep our conscience and mind pure from all evil. Let us exercise ourselves continually to have a conscience void of offence towards God and towards men. Help us to walk humbly with Thee our God, and in every thing to do justice and love mercy. Make us thoughtful and considerate of the wants and feelings of others : so that we may rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those that weep, and be merciful after our power, and do good to all, especially to the household of faith. Is it not thine own assurance to thy people,—Ye are the workmanship of God, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that ye should walk in them ! Oh fulfil this blessed truth in our daily life. Give us to know with full assurance of heart that we are saved by grace through faith, thine own gift, and not of works, that boasting may be excluded. In the joy and strength of this free salvation let us abound in all good works continually, that thy name may be constantly glorified in us and by us.

Guard us from dangers foreseen or unforeseen ; preserve us in temptations expected or unexpected. Strengthen us where we are weak, and give us so to feel our entire weakness and insufficiency, that we may be ever looking to Thee for grace and strength.

O Lord, the nations are disquieted and troubled, the world lieth in wickedness. Thy wrath is yet to come upon the earth, but thy long-suffering still prolongs the day of grace. O grant that, while thy judgments are yet withheld, thy church may be full of zeal and energy, thy people sealed and preserved, thousands plucked as brands from the burning, and a great multitude, which cannot be numbered, may wash their robes and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. Hear us, for his name's sake.

TUESDAY EVENING.

CONFESSION, PRAISE FOR THE SCRIPTURES, AND PRAYER FOR THEIR DIFFUSION.

O Lord our God, who hast made us, and not we ourselves, and who graciously regardest us as thy people and the sheep of thy pasture, and as the church which Thou hast purchased with the blood of thy only-begotten Son, receive our humble supplications, and assist us now by thy Spirit, really and fervently to pray unto Thee.

We thank Thee that Thou hast appointed a throne of grace; we thank Thee that thine ear is open to our prayers; we thank Thee that it is our duty to pray, and that Thou, to this very hour, hearest and answerest the prayers of all them that call upon Thee.

Great is our sinfulness and multiplied are our wants. God is not in all our thoughts: our affections cling to the world and to the creature; unbelief prevails within us; we dishonour Thee by our inconsistencies, our unholy dispositions, our selfishness and our disobedience. We have turned every one to his own way, and are justly exposed to thy awful condemnation.

Help us, then, truly to see our sinfulness, and really to know and believe, that through Jesus there is forgiveness of all our sins, however numerous, however great. Help us to believe that he was really wounded for our trans-

gressions and bruised for our iniquities, and that the chastisement of our peace was laid upon him.

And in the full belief of these most precious truths of thy holy word, make every one of us to be truly sorry, from the heart, for so sinning against him who has so greatly loved us. Give us that godly sorrow, which worketh repentance unto salvation, not to be repented of; and that cordial and fervent love which comes from believing that Thou hast thus deeply and unquestionably first loved us.

Many have been thy mercies to us, O our God, in the past day. We praise Thee for every personal mercy, for every family mercy, for all our domestic comforts. We bless Thee for the full light of thy revealed truth, all its saving doctrines, all its holy precepts, all its instructive history and patterns of holiness, all its profitable threatenings, and all its precious promises. And, above all, we thank Thee for Him who is its Alpha and Omega, its sum and substance; Jesus Christ, the light of life, our complete and all-sufficient Saviour.

O let this word of thy grace have free course, and be glorified in all the earth. May it be made known in every tongue and to every people, east and west, north and south, throughout the world. Let there be not one portion of the habitable globe destitute of the saving light of thy truth. Dispel by it the superstitions of Popery, the delusions of Mahommedanism, and the darkness of infidelity. Let it revive fallen churches, and be more understood, believed and obeyed in every nation among whom it is spread, till at length the Redeemer come to Zion, and turn away ungodliness from Jacob, and the knowledge of the glory of the Lord covers the earth, as the waters do the sea.

Bless more especially our family connexions and all our relatives; our parish, our Christian friends, our church, and all its ministers, and all the ministers of Christ. Guide our statesmen. Multiply thy grace on our Queen and all the Royal Family. Give spiritual pros-

perity to our princes, and our nobility and gentry, and make our country a blessing to all lands, through Jesus Christ, the only King of kings, and Lord of lords. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TO DO ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

O Thou who resistest the proud and givest grace to the humble, discover to us, by thine own Spirit, our sinfulness and our ruin, our total corruption and depravity in ourselves; that we may loathe and abhor ourselves, and come in the abased spirit of the publican before Thee, crying each from the deep feeling of his own heart, God be merciful to me a sinner?

Yet give us that true faith which believes all thy promises, and is confident that nothing can really fail of what the Lord has foretold, and that the scripture cannot be broken. Thou, O Jesus, hast said, Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. In the name of Jesus we ask of Thee, O Father, the Holy Spirit, to abide in us for ever. We ask further, in the same precious name, the gift of faith, purifying the heart, working by love, and overcoming the world. In the name of Jesus we ask for inward holiness and diffusive usefulness. O give us the joy of being useful to all around us, and especially in their highest and best welfare, their spiritual and eternal good. Yet further give us, we ask it in the same name, poverty of spirit, humility, and lowliness of heart.

Make reputation, or wealth, or enjoyments here, to be small things in our eyes, compared with likeness to Christ, suffering for his sake, and leading others to know and love him who died for us, and who will soon return again, that where he is we may be also.

Grant, O Lord, that whatsoever we do this day, we may do it in the name of the Lord Jesus. Help us by all the

types and figures of him, given to us in thy word and on the face of all creation, to realize continually his excellence and goodness. We would see Christ in the sun which shines upon us, in the bread which nourishes us, in the way in which we walk, in the friendship and brotherhood which comforts us, or in the tender relations of married life. Since he hath said, No man cometh unto the Father but by me, may we especially look unto him when worshipping Thee, and rejoice in the assurance that Jesus is now in the heavens at thy right hand, making intercession for us; is now exalted, to bestow gifts and blessings even on the rebellious. Give then to us pardon and peace; give unto us a true heart, to love Thee and serve Thee unfeignedly.

Assist us in all the undertakings of this day. Let our self-will be subdued, our self-wisdom be mortified, our pride be humbled, and our humility deepened. O lead us through each of our employments in thy faith, fear, and love. Let us not seek to please ourselves, but to please Thee: let us not pursue our own glory, but thy glory; let us not speak idle, vain, foolish words, but words of soberness and truth; our speech being seasoned with salt, that it may minister grace to the hearers.

Let us look beyond the present moment or the present life, and live in distinct remembrance of what is certainly before us—the judgment-day—the account to be rendered, and the eternal consequences of all which we now say and do. And seeing the shortness of time, and the great and many uncertainties of this life, may we redeem our time for the great ends for which it was given; thy glory in our salvation, and in the salvation of all within the reach of our influence and exertion and prayers. Thus help us this day, and continually to lay ourselves out for the good of others.

Bless our Sovereign: cause her to reign in righteousness long and prosperously. Greatly hast Thou blessed our country in times which are past, and we have not rendered again to the Lord, but have rebelled against him: yet

spare us and give us abundant grace, and still more exceedingly bless us in the time to come.

Grant to those in authority over us, heavenly guidance and direction, that error, and sin, and apostacy may be discountenanced, and everywhere checked and put down, and truth and righteousness everywhere encouraged and advanced. Bless the whole earth, and as it is everywhere full of thy goodness, so may it also be filled with thy grace and truth, and righteousness, for our Redeemer's sake.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

THE BLESSEDNESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE; GRACE FOR DUTY.

O Merciful and ever-gracious God, our heavenly Father, grant to us, now kneeling together in thy presence, to feel in our hearts the glorious truth, that Thou art very near to us, and really present in the midst of us. May we know that in Thee, who art thus present with us, there is all that is exalted and great, all that is wise and mighty, all that is good and blessed; and this for us sinners, by our own Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; let us thus learn daily to delight ourselves in Thee the Lord, and through Christ to approach unto Thee with full confidence and holy boldness.

O Lord, take away from us the heart of stone, and give us a heart of flesh. Put thy Spirit within us, and cause us to walk in thy statutes. Cleanse us from all our sins, and remember our iniquities no more against us. Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.

Give us confidence in Thee, that if we ask anything according to thy will, thou hearest us: and being assured that Thou hearest us, whatsoever we thus ask, oh let us know and believe that we have the petitions which we desire of Thee, and may we ask of Thee, nothing doubting.

We beseech Thee to give us grace to fulfil each relative

duty, as parent and child, as master and servant, as kindred and friends, as pastor and flock ; whether having authority or under authority. Oh let us each discern our own immediate duty, and fulfil it as in thy sight, and not be busy with the duties or concerns of others, but apply ourselves patiently, faithfully, and constantly to do our own work, according to thy holy will. May we submit ourselves to one another in the fear of God ; and be clothed with humility ; humbling ourselves under thy mighty hand, with the blessed hope of being in due time exalted by Thee.

And, O Lord, we praise together thy holy name, and acknowledge together thy loving-kindness to us, thy sinful creatures. We admire and extol the riches of thy forbearance and long-suffering towards us, in sparing us when we deserved punishment ; in giving us benefits when we deserved thine anger and judgments. O Lord, blessed be Thou for all thy protecting care over us, all thy providing love for us, all thy redeeming grace in Christ Jesus, and all the precious gifts of thy Spirit promised to us through him ; and for that great promise which Thou hast promised us, even eternal life in Christ Jesus. Thy mercies by day and thy mercies by night, thy mercies to ourselves and our family, to our church and to our country, and thy whole church and the whole world—how great they are ! even more in number than the stars of heaven, or the sand on the sea-shore ! All praise then be to Thee, the one great Giver of all good gifts, now and evermore. Still continue these thy blessings to us and others, and make us more mindful of them and more grateful for them.

We now commit ourselves to thy care as a family this night. Guard us from all evil, either to body or to soul. Let no fire consume us, no robbers disturb us, no sickness alarm us. Refresh us with quiet sleep. Renew both our bodily and own spiritual strength : Oh let us thus be more and more prepared, not only for duties in this life, but for the morning of the resurrection and the day of eternal glory, through our only Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

THURSDAY MORNING.

DEPENDENCE ON GOD, AND PRAYER FOR THE AFFLICTED.

Almighty Father, by thy only-begotten Son, who took upon him our nature and became man for us, and yet is one with Thee, even God over all, blessed for ever; we approach unto Thee. By him, the door of the sheep, through whom alone we can enter into the fold; by him, the way, the truth and the life, by whom alone we can come to Thee—we appear again in thy presence.

Oh what abounding reasons have we, as a family, for daily praises and constant prayer! Continually renewed are the mercies which thy loving-kindness bestows upon us. Daily growing and increasing are thy blessings. Oh help us to see, and not only to see, but to acknowledge thy love in every thing, even in that which is now dark and painful to us. May we know that all is ordered by him whose brief but glorious and comprehensive description, for our unspeakable and eternal comfort, is—GOD IS LOVE.

We know, O our God, that we are dependent altogether on Thee in all things. Blessed be thy name, through Thee alone all others are, or can be blessings to us. We acknowledge joyfully before Thee, that we are not dependent on man, or on any son of man, for good; and that we are not exposed defenceless to the hatred of wicked men or devils—but for life, for death, for sorrow or for joy, for riches or for poverty, for health or for sickness, and all things, we have simply and wholly to look unto Thee. The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. Our choicest gifts in times past have come unlooked-for and unexpectedly and directly from thy love! and especially those best gifts, thy word, to guide us to Christ, thine only Son himself, and thy Holy Spirit.

Give us now thy help in the duties, the dangers, the perplexities, and the anxieties of the day. Teach us how

to guide all our affairs with discretion ; to be slow to speak, swift to hear, and ready to every good work. Let our leisure hours or moments not be lost in vain and frivolous trifling, in foolish books or converse, but redeemed by acquiring fresh knowledge of thy works and of thy word, or in useful intercourse with others.

As our Redeemer took up his cross and endured contradiction of sinners against himself for our sake, so enable us to follow him in a self-denying course here, and to look as he did, to the joy set before us. Remembering, that the cross is the way to the crown, that the path of self-denial is the path to true life and enjoyment, and that the gate and the way which are narrow, straight, and difficult, lead to real liberty here and eternal glory hereafter—give us to choose the cross and self-denial, and enter in at the straight gate, and walk in the narrow way to eternal life.

We pray for all in affliction, whatever be its cause—whether infirmities of body or of spirit—whether sickness or losses, or death of those dear to them—whether poverty or pain, or persecution—whether they be tempted by Satan, deceived by man, or cast down in despair by many sins, or burdened in guilt—whether prisoners or captives, strangers or foreigners, friendless or shipwrecked in distant lands. O look upon all in their respective necessities ; give them strength and grace suited to them : make all things work together for their good and the good of others, and then give them a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

Bless our whole neighbourhood, our parish, our schools, our communicants, our visitors of the poor, our religious societies, our minister, and all effects for the temporal and spiritual good of those who dwell around us. Bless our whole country, and our government in church and state. Preserve our Protestant Constitution, and continue it to generations yet to come, even till our Redeemer returns, and heaven and earth be filled with his glory. Hear us for his name's sake. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

FOR A SENSE OF ETERNAL REALITIES.

O Thou, who hast revealed thyself to us as the God of all grace, when from our sins we might justly have expected to have heard of Thee only as the God of judgment and of wrath, help us to come unto Thee, who art waiting to be gracious. Help us to call upon Thee, with all confidence of heart towards Thee.

Glory, glory for ever be to thy holy name, Thou art great above all that is great on earth or in heaven : and good above all that is good in others ; and excellent beyond all that is or can be excellent in created beings ; for all were formed by Thee and for Thee, and every good that any other has, or can have, is only thy gift. Blessing and honour, and glory, and power, be to Thee who sittest on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever. We praise Thee for all that Thou art, we magnify Thee for all thy glorious perfections, O Thou who art the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God our Saviour.

Brought by thy love safely to the close of another day, we confess our many sins against Thee and against our fellow creatures, and implore thy free forgiveness. Give us all to believe in the name of Jesus, and so to be justified from all things through his redemption.

Grant us such a lively sense of our real situation here, that we may duly and constantly feel that time is short, eternity infinitely long, and close at hand ; that any moment may transport us into that spiritual and invisible world which is before us, and into the immediate presence of Thee our God. Help us never to forget that our life is a vapour which passeth away ; that here we have no continuing city, and all our trials are but transient and momentary, and yet that on the right employment of this short moment depends that favourable sentence in the great judgment-day, which fixes our future state, through a never ending eternity. Help us then to flee with all

earnestness from the wrath to come. Help us with all firmness and perseverance to lay hold on eternal life. Help us now with all stedfast patience to follow peace and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. And that we may thus strive, O give us, by thine own Spirit, faith in Jesus, spiritual-mindedness, and let us never be weary in well-doing. Let that Spirit be in us, an ever-abiding guide and comforter, teacher and sanctifier.

Bless all among whom we dwell, and our relatives everywhere, and all our friends. Look especially in mercy and love upon the sick and afflicted, and succour the tempted. Regard all in distress of mind, body or estate. Bless our native land and all its colonies and dependencies. Preserve peace among the nations, that the gospel may freely spread throughout all lands. Greatly increase, and multiply, and prosper the efforts of thy servants to spread abroad thy truth on every side.

Prepare thy church for the return and judgment and kingdom of our great Lord and Head, Jesus Christ. May he find a waiting people longing for his appearance, and ready to meet him, and may an abundant entrance be ministered to us into his everlasting kingdom. O gracious Father, receive and answer these our prayers, not for our worthiness, but for the alone merit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY MORNING.

GRACE TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN TRIAL AND REPROACH.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light which, coming into the world, enlighteneth every man : who hast given us thy word to be a light to our feet and a lamp to our paths, grant that we may take heed to that guidance by day and by night. Give us grace to walk in its clear and pure brightness till we reach our heavenly and eternal home, and rejoice in thy presence for ever.

O thou good and gracious God, who for us gavest up thy

only Son Jesus to the cross as the way to the crown, and to be a partaker of sufferings that he might inherit eternal glory, give us grace cheerfully to follow him now; preferring self-denial, to self-indulgence, and choosing shame for his name's sake rather than the honour that cometh from man. Oh let us patiently endure trials in his ways, rather than follow the course of this world, however distinguished by outward glories and carnal pleasures; and let us not follow the multitude still going in the broad road which leads to destruction. Grant that we may not withdraw from thy ways because they are evil-spoken of, nor be ashamed of the Gospel because it is reproached; but rather let us count the reproach of Christ to be greater riches than all the treasures of this world.

Take from us all conceit of any goodness or righteousness, wisdom or strength, in ourselves. If in anything we differ from others, all glory be to Thee alone, who hast made us to differ, and let us be deeply humbled because thy grace to us has not been far more diligently used to thy glory. Lord, forgive our great unfaithfulness and unprofitableness. We desire only to glory in the Lord Jesus Christ, and to exalt him alone: and we earnestly pray that all our fellow-sinners may be partakers of the benefits, which Jesus has bought for us with his blood. O Lord, thou knowest all the secret sins of our hearts, as well as our secret groanings under our corruptions and thirstings after thy grace; break not the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax, till Thou bring forth judgment unto victory. Take away from us pride, vanity and high-mindedness; deliver us from all our unbelief, negligence, indifference, and coldness of heart toward Thee, and from all worldly-mindedness. Cleanse our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy name. Free our souls from all the entanglements of sin, and take us out of the mire and filthiness of this evil world and place us firmly and immoveably on Christ the rock of ages, the only sure foundation.

Be with us this day. Do us good, even the best good,

good to our souls. Let all our hours be employed for Thee, so that we may do nothing on which we cannot ask thy blessing, and in which we cannot enjoy thy presence. Make us especially watchful to avoid evil, to do good, to be helpful to the souls of others, and against all inconsistency of conduct in our high and holy calling as the children of God.

Bring back thy people Israel to their own land. Speedily gather in thine elect from all lands, and complete the first fruits unto God and the Lamb, in whose mouth shall be found no guile, and who shall be without fault before the throne of God. Prepare thy people to glorify thy holy name in fires of tribulation, and keep them from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. And at length, let the tabernacle of Thee our God be with men, and do thou dwell with them, and let them be thy people, and the whole earth be filled with thy glory.

O gracious Father, thanks, eternal thanks, be unto thee for all the aboundings of thy grace and goodness towards us in what is past, and what is present, and what thou hast promised in the ages to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FRIDAY EVENING.

CONFESSION OF DAILY SINS:—PRAYER FOR ABSENT FRIENDS.

Almighty Father, help us to see by faith that Thou art now present in the midst of us, and full of grace and goodness to all who seek Thee. O thou who hast given so many precious promises to all who call upon Thee, grant us grace to believe that Thou art truly here, and that Thou art the sure rewarder of them who diligently seek Thee, through our one Mediator Jesus Christ.

We confess that however in the eyes of our fellow-men we may have been blameless and harmless, we have sinned

greatly against Thee this day. Duties justly owing to Thee have been omitted or negligently fulfulled : sins against Thee and against one another have been committed in thy sight by each of us. By unbelief, by hardness of heart, by vain thoughts, by idle words, by misspent time and talents, by lost opportunities, we have all offended before Thee. O deal not with us after our sins, nor reward us according to our iniquities, but deal with us according to the abundance of thy tender mercies, and the multitude of thy loving-kindnesses, and raise us at length to that blessed devotedness to Thee which thy law has set before us.

Thou hast graciously declared, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. According, therefore, to thine own sovereignty and overflowing bounty, have mercy and have compassion upon us thy sinful creatures : give unto us thy heavenly grace, to teach us our sinfulness, and to help us to look to our all-sufficient Saviour ; to uphold our goings in his paths, to strengthen us against all our spiritual foes, and to bless us by turning every one of us from our iniquities.

Give us especially the spirit of knowledge and understanding, of faith and love. Oh grant us much true Christian love—love to God and love to man ; that living in love we may dwell in Thee, and Thou thyself mayest dwell in us. Give us peace within and peace without : and let us as much as lieth in us, live peaceably with all men, and follow after the things which make for peace, and the things whereby we may edify one another. Take care of us all, during the defenceless hours of the night. We desire to feel that we have no real safety, but as Thou who never slumberest nor sleepest, watchest over us ; and that no evil can come nigh us while Thou art our keeper. We commit, therefore, ourselves, and all who are dear to us, unto thy watchful providence.

Bless all our relations and friends. Some are widely scattered from us ; but all are under thine eye and in thy

presence, so that while we are here praying to Thee, Thou who art with them, canst at this moment, in answer to our prayers, do good to them and bless them. We beseech Thee now to give to each that defence and succour, that help and blessing, which they severally need.

O Lord who hast given us the gracious title of the Lord's remembrancers and watchmen, and hast charged us to give Thee no rest till Thou make Jerusalem a praise in the earth: give us a deep interest in that which is thus dear to Thee; give us ardent desires for the restoration and salvation of Israel. Fulfil all the rich promises given in thy word unto them, that so the heathen may fear thy name, and all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God.

We thank Thee, O our Father, from the heart, for the full propitiation made by the death of Jesus for the sins of the whole world. We thank Thee for the precious assurance that all the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Thee. We bless Thee for the promise which we look for, of new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. For the promise of the speedy return of our Redeemer; of the future resurrection of the dead saints, and the glorious change of those who shall be then alive, and of the eternal glory yet to be revealed in the last days, all praise, and honour, and adoration be unto Thee, O Father, who livest and reignest with the Son and the Holy Ghost, one eternal God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR FAMILY WORSHIP:—PRAYER FOR GIVING UP OURSELVES TO GOD.

O Thou who art ever with us, and hearest the prayers of all who call upon Thee, enable us now to partake of our highest privilege and blessing in this life, communion

with Thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. We cannot of ourselves attain it, but thy precious promise has assured to us the aid of thy Spirit. Oh let that Spirit now help our infirmities, and raise our inward affections to thyself, that we may come unto Thee thirsting and longing after thy presence.

O Lord, what thanks we owe to Thee, that in thy goodness we have been drawn thus to meet together in family worship. Thou hast taught us that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps; and Thou hast revealed thy purpose of pouring out thy fury upon the families that call not upon thy name. We bless Thee, then, that in thy goodness, family prayer has been established among us, and thy word is daily brought before us. Only grant thy grace that our service may never sink into a mere form, but may be a spiritual service, humbling us, as well as quickening and strengthening us; bringing us as a family into real fellowship with thyself; leading us to prize Christ, our only Saviour, to glory in him, and to follow his holy example.

We renew our thanksgivings unto Thee for all thy continual loving-kindness bestowed upon us. If of old there were those who were appointed to praise Thee because thy mercy endureth for ever,* much more should we, under the richer blessings of the Gospel, and called out of darkness into thy marvellous light, show forth thy goodness; and raise, morning by morning, and evening by evening, fresh songs of praise unto Thee our God. We do as a family with one accord exalt and magnify thy holy name for those many blessings, the gifts of thy love, which we now daily together enjoy.

O grant, we beseech Thee, that thy mercies may constrain us to give up ourselves unto Thee. Give, oh give unto every one of us, entire devotedness of heart to our God. Let us yield ourselves unto Thee, as those who are alive from the dead, and all our members as instruments of righteousness in thy free and happy service. O blessed

* 1 Chron. xvi. 41.

Jesus, the Son of God, and the Son of man, do thou make us free, that we may be free indeed. Let the thoughts of our hearts be consecrated unto God. Let the powers of our understanding be employed for him. Let all our faculties and all the affections of the heart be occupied for God, and turned wholly to Thee. Let our meditation of Thee be sweet to us. Let our ears hear for Thee. Let our tongues speak for Thee, and our hands work for Thee, and our feet walk for Thee and with Thee. Oh teach us effectually that we are bought with a price, even the blood of Jesus : and constrain us thereby to seek in every thing to glorify Thee in our body and in our spirit, which are thine.

Bless thy ministers everywhere, and especially those whom Thou hast appointed to watch over our souls, in preparing for this sacred work of instructing thy people. Give them heavenly guidance in their meditations ; and furnish them with those thoughts and those divine truths, and that utterance of them, which shall be most seasonable and profitable for all who hear them. Let every one in his generation and in his station be a full blessing to thy church, bringing thy people to a prepared and waiting state for the appearing and kingdom of Christ.

Everywhere multiply grace upon thy people, and add to them continually. Let all who love Thee be more and more brought to be like-minded, having the same love, and being of one accord and of one mind ; so that the world may believe that Jesus was sent of the Father, and all may know him, even from the least to the greatest. Hear us, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

PREPARATION FOR CHRIST'S COMING—PRAYER FOR MINISTERS.

O Lord our God, how excellent is thy name in all the earth. Thou hast set thy glory above the heavens ; and

what is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man that Thou visitest him! How wonderful was that love that Thou didst show to the world, in sending thy only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Oh give unto us grace ever to believe in Jesus, and readiness, if need be, to suffer for his sake.

Brought by thy goodness to the end of this week, we desire humbly to confess the many sins which we have committed, and how far we have all of us come short of thy glory. None of us are righteous, none of us have of ourselves done good, no, not one. We have all erred and strayed from thy ways, and each one has turned to his own way.

But it is thy promise, that if we confess our sins, Thou art just and faithful to forgive us, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We ask for this double blessing; forgiveness and cleansing. Pardon all our sins. Create in us a clean heart.

Lord, increase our faith: quicken our watchfulness: enable us to pray always. Make us like the wise virgins, that while we have time we may gather oil, even the oil of thy truth, in our lamps. Give us that unction from the Holy One, that we may know all things. And when the cry shall be heard, Behold the Bridegroom cometh, may we all be ready and prepared at once to go and meet him.

Give us a full blessing through the whole of the Sabbath on the morrow. Make it to every one of us a quickening, strengthening, and instructive Sabbath. Let us not rest in the form of godliness, and an outside show of religion; but give us all its living reality, its inward power, and its mighty energy—making us new creatures—so transforming us that we may prove what is thy good and acceptable and perfect will.

O Lord, when we look back on past Sabbaths, on cold and formal prayers, and hearts dull and lifeless in thy service, we greatly fear lest we should again dishonour

Thee, who art a Spirit, and who requirest that those who worship Thee should worship Thee in spirit and in truth. Thou knowest our weakness. Thou knowest how full we are of vain imaginations and distracting thoughts; O assist us then with thy all-sufficient help and strength, and thyself enable us to draw nigh to Thee, and do Thou draw nigh to us, that we may have real communion with Thee in thy house and service.

Bless the pastors of thy flock, the missionaries to Jew and Gentile, and the teachers of thy truth throughout the world. Oh that they may go forth in thy name and strength, may everywhere declare first of all that Christ died for our sins, and everywhere glory in his cross. Let this saving doctrine be the power of God unto the salvation of innumerable precious souls. Thus send the gospel of thy grace on its glorious errand of mercy through the wide world, and to every nation, kindred, people, and tongue, gathering thine elect from every land, till the fulness of the Gentiles be come in, and all Israel be saved.

Give us now sweet rest to refresh us, and fit our bodies to fulfil the sacred duties of the Sabbath. Let us lie down with Thee in our last thoughts, and awake in the morning still present with Thee, through our only Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Third Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

A UNIVERSAL SABBATH DESIRED.

O Lord, the God of heaven and of earth, who sittest in the highest heavens on a throne of glory, surrounded by cherubim and seraphim, angels and archangels, and all the glorified hosts above, ever singing thy praise and magnifying Thee; and yet who condescendest to regard the feeblest cry of the needy, and the prayers of thy sinful creatures now assembled at thy mercy-seat; enable us to perceive and be assured that prayer unto Thee is our richest privilege and our greatest honour.

We do indeed mourn before Thee that most sad and affecting proof of our depravity, that we are so backward to this blessed duty, and so soon weary of it. Deeply ought we to be humbled in thy sight, that so often there is hardly any occupation in which we can engage wherein our spirit so soon flags, our thoughts so soon wander, which we are so reluctant to commence, and so ready to give up, as prayer unto Thee. If in happy times it be otherwise, and we realize our true honour, privilege, and blessedness in communion with Thee, what thanks are due to Thee! Oh that we may this day find it good thus to draw near unto God!

O Lord, who hast made the Sabbath for man, hasten the time when not one weary soul in this world shall be

without the blessedness of this day of rest; when there shall be no bearing of burdens, no toiling in earthly occupations, no buying nor selling; but holy joy and gladness, prayer and praise, and growth in Divine knowledge, and communion of saints in every place; when all men shall hallow thy Sabbaths, and they shall be a sign by which all may know that Thou art the Lord their God!

Oh hasten the time when thy name shall be great among the Gentiles, and in every place incense shall be offered unto thy name and a pure offering: when one holy Sabbath of rest shall comfort, and bless, and sanctify the whole earth, and the sun of righteousness shine forth on every nation, every city, every village, every dwelling, and every heart.

Lord, when shall it once be! Now when Thou lookest upon our earth, Thou beholdest a world lying in wickedness—thy glorious name unknown or forgotten, insulted or blasphemed—thy Sabbaths profaned and despised—thy word set aside and mocked. Thou seest all the idolatries even of professedly Christian lands, which dishonour Thee in the worship of saints, and images, and pictures; and in those who renounce open superstitions Thou seest the more spiritual but not less real idolatry of lovers of the creature, lovers of pleasure and of gold more than of Thee. And so the hearts of men are fully set in them to do evil, and they depart from Thee, the living God.

Lord, give us such understanding in thy word that we may discern these things according to its light, and take Thine own view of all things done on earth, and be among those who mourn for sin, especially our own sin, and sigh for the abominations that are committed, and thirst for the return of our Redeemer, and his universal kingdom. Give us grace so to do thy will as thine own children, that we may now be the salt of the earth, a salt not losing its own savour, but seasoning others, and preserving them from corruption.

Grant that this Sabbath may be a day of real spiritual profit and edification. Let all its sacred hours be occupied

with Thee. Enlighten our minds by thy word, and let that word only be the ground of our faith; and bringing every thing which we hear to the law and to the testimony which Thou hast given, and like the Bereans, searching the scriptures whether these things are so.

Bless all thy ministers in every place. We rejoice in thy goodness in raising up and sending forth the thousands of faithful labourers who this day will go forth and stand up to declare thy truth. Stand by them and assist them: set a watch over their mouths: open Thou their lips to speak thy truth distinctly, fully and boldly, that so thy people may be fully built up, sinners converted, the weak strengthened, and the sorrowful everywhere comforted, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

PRAISE FOR SABBATH MERCIES—THE HEAVENLY SABBATH DESIRED.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, accept, in the name of Jesus Christ, our hearty thanksgivings for all the blessings of this thy holy day. Thou hast called us in every thing to give thanks. We bless Thee for preserving mercy, for health and for sickness, for strength and for weakness, for mercies and for trials, and for all the steps by which Thou art leading us to thy heavenly kingdom.

We bless Thee for thy preached word, thy holy baptism in the name of Jesus, thy holy table, thy worship in prayer and praise and intercession; the communion with saints on earth, and with angels and the church triumphant in heaven. We thank Thee for any opportunities of teaching and helping the young, the ignorant, the sick, or the aged, rejoicing as thy people thus to do good on the Sabbath-day.

Help us all, O Lord Jesus, to look forward to that blessed place which Thou art preparing for us in the many mansions above; and bring us all to that happy and

eternal home. Oh let us love Thee more and more, who didst die for us, who art now thinking of us, and interceding for us. May thy love, O Christ, constrain us to live unto Thee; and may we lay aside every weight, and each easily besetting sin, and run with patience the race which is set before us, looking constantly unto the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Poor indeed, and feeble, unworthy and polluted are all our services and worship, and might justly rather bring down upon us thy wrath than thy blessing. But enable us, O heavenly Father, to fix our eyes more upon thy mercy-seat in the heavens, and by faith in the merits of Jesus let us find peace and strength.

O Lord, prepare our hearts for all thy righteous and gracious dealings, as revealed in thy word. Grant that Israel may blossom and bud, and fill the face of the earth with fruit; that Zion may arise and shine, and the Gentiles come to her light, and kings to the brightness of her rising. Count us worthy to escape all those things which shall come upon this sinful world, and to stand before the Son of Man. Free us from all corruption, and let us share that kingdom, promised to thy saints, which shall not be moved. Fulfil Thine own glorious promises, and hasten thy coming and thy manifested glory through the world.

Gracious Father, abundantly bless all the labours of thine own ministers and the faithful stewards of thy mysteries in all the churches of Christ. Oh let not thy word return unto Thee void. Give it an abundant increase.

O let not prayer be anywhere made in vain; but give the spirit of grace and supplication to all thy assembled people, and everywhere may it come up as a memorial before Thee. Everywhere, O Jesus, our High Priest, receive the supplications of a believing people, and by thy own prevailing intercession obtain full answers of peace, and grace, and love.

O Lord, by thy earthly Sabbaths enable us to rise more to the hope, the foretaste, and earnest of the heavenly

Sabbath, where there is no absence of God to mourn, no cessation of service to grieve; but without weariness, or distraction, or interruption, thy people serve Thee day and night, and see thy face, and thy name is on their foreheads, and they go no more out, but reign for ever and ever.

Let this be the happy, the everlasting portion of each one of us, through Jesus Christ, our blessed Mediator and Advocate.

MONDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR MORNING MERCIES—FAMILY BLESSEDNESS SOUGHT.

O Lord our God, we will give Thee thanks for ever: while we have any being, we will sing praises unto thy name. Abundant reason have we to do so. What an unspeakable mercy is it, that creatures so sinful and so perverse and ungrateful as we have been, can yet, in this day of grace, come into thy holy presence, and know that Thou art reconciled to us by the cross of Jesus, and wilt receive us as thy sons and thy daughters. Behold we come unto Thee, for Thou art the Lord our God.

We unite in praising Thee for all the renewed mercies of another morning. Light and life, health and peace, food and raiment, home and shelter, warmth and comforts, family union and social love, and all the dear relations of domestic life are from thy goodness, and are all redeemed for us through that precious Saviour, by whom all things are ours, both for time and eternity. It is our highest privilege and happiness, that in offering praise we glorify Thee. It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord; praise is comely for the upright, and in Jesus praise is comely for us. We thank Thee, that though in ourselves we are sinful, yet we are accounted righteous in thy sight through faith in him. All glory be to Thee for blessings without end, which daily manifest thy continual goodness

to us, and for thy loving-kindness, who orderest all things concerning us.

Help us this day to recollect and meditate upon the truths which we yesterday received. O holy Ghost, the Comforter, bring them to our remembrance, that they may abide with us and bring forth much fruit, and may be the power of God to our salvation.

Give us not only outward privileges, but that inward grace which they were intended to impart. Pour thy Spirit very abundantly upon us and all thy people. We want a broken and a contrite spirit. We want a penitent and believing heart. We want a self-denying, self-sacrificing, and loving spirit. O Lord, give us this new heart and this new spirit. Write that new commandment distinctly and manifestly on all of us; the commandment that we love one another as Christ has loved us.

Bless us as a family. Make us, more and more, blessings and comforts to one another daily and hourly, as we grow in conformity to thy image, and partake more of thy likeness. Whether in the relation of parent or child, master or servant, friend or kindred, let every relation be that fountain of love and refreshment which Thou didst design that it should be, so that we may grow up in all things into Christ our Head, and edify one another continually in love. Let our household, in all things, be conducted on the rules of the Gospel. Let us use hospitality without grudging, and delight in being a comfort and blessing to others.

Prepare us for all thy holy will, and all thy righteous and gracious dispensations with our country and with the world, with our church and the whole church of Christ. Let the great object of our lives be to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and give us entire confidence in thy love to provide for every want. Let us not be troubled about many things, but, remembering that one thing is needful, let us choose that good part which shall not be taken from us.

We ask the same blessings for all our friends and rela-

tives, for our neighbours and for our fellow-Christians and fellow-creatures throughout the world. Every where let the gospel be preached, and the way of the Lord be prepared. Give thy people a waiting spirit, ready for the coming of the Lord, and meet for his heavenly glory. Hear us, for Jesus Christ's sake, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory now and for ever. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

FAITH IN CHRIST SOUGHT.

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, enable us by thine own Spirit to draw near to Thee. Let us dread coming unto Thee in form only and not in spirit; in carelessness and not in earnestness; in unbelief and not in faith. And oh give us to thirst after thy presence and favour and love, even as the hart panteth for the water-brooks.

We thank Thee for the many mercies of this day, all testifying thy care over us, thy love and goodness to us. Oh how many are now living on our earth who are destitute of the temporal advantages and the spiritual blessings which we enjoy. And who are we, and what are we, that Thou shouldest have so favoured vile, ungrateful sinners, rebellious creatures, continually breaking thy laws and offending in thy sight!

O Lord, freely forgive our many offences, which are more in number than the hairs of our head. Let thy goodness melt and subdue our souls; and still continue Thou to do us good, and to bless us, by turning every one of us from our iniquities.

Give unto us grace to know Jesus Christ and him crucified, and to count all else but loss for the excellence of this knowledge. We earnestly implore of Thee the gift of precious faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Thou hast told us, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish,

but have everlasting life. Thou hast told us that the just live by faith. Oh grant unto us this living and saving faith. Give us simply and wholly to trust in Christ, and not in any merits or good deeds or righteousness which we have done, or can do. Grant that the life which we now live in the flesh, we may live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us ; and let his wonderful love ever constrain us not to live to ourselves, but to Him who died for us.

O Lord, grant us all to believe thy faithful testimony, that we are saved by grace through faith, and that not of ourselves, but that it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast ; and enable us to give the manifest proof of a living faith, by fulfilling, in thy strength, those good works, unto which we are created in Christ Jesus.

Bless our whole family ; those who rule and those who serve : parents, children, and friends, and all who are related to any of us : wide is the circle of kindred and friends connected with those now kneeling before Thee, but let not one of them be without thy saving grace and thy eternal blessing. Let all who are relatives to us according to the flesh, become united to us far more nearly still in the faith of Christ, and by the partaking of thine own Spirit.

Bless our country and all Chistian lands, and the whole world. Oh let the everlasting Gospel be preached unto all them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, kindred, and tongue, and people : oh that all may see the approaching hour of judgment, and may fear God and give glory to him, and worship him alone. Oh that all the people of God may come out of Babylon, and cease to partake of her sins, that they receive not of her plagues ; and let the salvation of Israel speedily come out of Zion, and the Lord bring back the captivity of his people, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

HELP IN THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE DAY—PRAYER FOR THE PROSPERITY OF THE CHURCH.

Almighty Father, what manner of love is this, that we should have the privilege and right, in Jesus Christ, of calling Thee our Father! As thy sinful children we come into our Father's presence, through him thy only begotten Son, who partook of our flesh and blood, and is now our Advocate with Thee. As all our blessings first came from Thee, so we praise Thee together for their being still continued to us and enjoyed by us. Our health as well as our life is from thee; from Thee flow all our comforts, privileges, and blessings, both for body and for soul. But, above all, we thank Thee for that gift, of all gifts the chief, thine own Son, to be our Head and Redeemer, our light and life and glory for ever. Together then we praise and bless the Father of all our mercies, and the God of all our comforts.

O Lord Jesus, who didst promise thy disciples that Thou wouldst not leave them comfortless, but wouldst come unto them, graciously fulfil thy promise to us. Come unto us as our Shepherd, Teacher, Saviour, and Ruler. Send unto us the Holy Ghost, the Comforter from the Father, to abide with us now and for ever; that he may take of thy holy truths, and show them to us, teaching us all things and guiding us into all truth.

O Lord, we can never tell what a day may bring forth, or how we may be tried and ensnared. Preserve us this day in all dangers; guard us in all assaults of our spiritual foes; assist us to go through all our duties; make us ready to seize all opportunities of doing good; let no temptation of Satan surprise us into sin, but may we take the shield of faith, and so quench all his fiery darts.

Bless, O gracious God, this family, and each member of it, according to their several callings and duties in thy church. Let our desire for thy glory grow more simple.

Give us more pure and holy affections toward one another, that thus, as a family, we may grow up more and more as a holy temple unto the Lord.

Bless our parish and neighbourhood, our county and our country, England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Take from us the spirit of contention and selfishness, and give us the spirit of love; take from us divisions and strifes, and give us oneness of mind and overflowing kindness to others. Overrule trials and difficulties for the revival and enlargement of thy church. Let us be clothed with humility, and in honour prefer one another.

O Lord, enrich, enlarge, and prosper thy church with the manifold gifts and graces of thy Holy Spirit. Do thou bear with the transgressions of thine own people. Let us not have to mourn over the sins of those who bear the name of Christ, but to rejoice over their daily renewal in his glorious image. Let no part of thy word, even that relating to thy future counsels, thy judgments to come on sinners, and thy coming in glory to raise thy saints to reign with Thee, fail to afford us, and all who believe in Jesus, practical lessons for daily holiness.

Bless thy chosen nation; restore and convert Israel. Give us heavenly wisdom to understand thy purposes with regard to them; and to see in them the wonders of thy Providence; the truth and mercy, the righteousness and love of our God. Give us grace to look more and more unto Jesus, and beholding thus, as in a mirror, thy glory, may we be changed more and more into thy own likeness by the Spirit of the Lord. Graciously forgive and hear, accept and answer all our prayers, for Jesus Christ's sake.

TUESDAY EVENING.

GOD'S MERCIES AND OUR SINS—PARISH BLESSINGS SOUGHT.

O Lord of all power and might, our good and gracious

Father, from whom alone come the spirit of grace and supplication, grant that our prayer unto thee may be spiritual and fervent, may not be a burden to the flesh and a weariness to the spirit, but a real comfort and enjoyment. Help us to pray in the Holy Ghost, to keep ourselves in the love of God, and to look for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

We praise Thee from the heart for all the blessings which we have this day been enjoying. Thou gavest us strength for our duties, provision for our wants, preservation from evil. All the streams of goodness which refresh us continually flow from Thee first of all. Thou art the fountain of life, and in thy light we see light: light for our souls, light for this world, and light for the world to come, all in Jesus Christ, the true light of life.

Yet, O our God, we are by nature blind and corrupt, and have turned every one to his own way; we are by nature proud and vain, and have departed from thee and turned to lying vanities. We have dishonoured Thee by unbelief and hard thoughts, and alienation of mind through the ignorance which is in us. God has been forgotten in our thoughts: and innumerable sins have defiled those bodies which ought to have been kept as temples of the Holy Ghost.

We have need then to come again to Thee with all earnestness, to obtain thy mercy and grace to help us. We apply afresh for the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus on our guilty consciences. Oh that we may win Christ and be found in him. We seek the Lord now. We call upon him now. Fulfil thy promises: be found of us. Oh that we may be saved by Thee.

O Lord, renew a right spirit within us. Let us look on each action as a seed of which we shall reap the fruit in endless happiness or misery. Let us not lose our precious opportunity and day of grace. During this short seed-time let us scatter the precious seed widely, and make our life the seed-plot of a glorious and eternal harvest; not

sowing to the flesh but to the Spirit, that we may of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Let us consider our High Priest and Leader Jesus, who endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest we be wearied and faint in our minds. Give us to receive from Thee the present and large aid of thy Holy Spirit, filling us with love to God and love to man, and enabling us to bring forth abundant fruit, that Thou our Father mayest be glorified.

Bless us as a people together, and especially that flock of Christ with which we are united. Prosper all our plans for doing good : give us patience and perseverance to go on with them ; strength, zeal, and energy to accomplish them : and thine own blessing in them and upon them. Bless all that dwell in our parish and neighbourhood : strengthen and multiply the communicants : bless the schools and teachers ; regard in mercy the destitute, the sick, and the afflicted ; assist the visitors of the poor with thy favour. We thank Thee for any tokens of good amongst us : multiply these continually, and let us rejoice more in thy goodness to all around us.

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, and cause thy face to shine upon us. Restore and save the seed of Abraham, and so let thy way be made known upon earth, and thy saving health among all nations, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

THE LOVE OF GOD TO BRITAIN, AND PRAYER FOR OTHERS.

We thank Thee, O merciful Father, our King and our God, that we are once more, as a family of thy children, assembled around the throne of thy grace in the name of our Redeemer. We bless Thee for the many and great privileges which Thou hast given to our land. Recovered by thy love from paganism and from popery, and enjoying

the full and clear light of divine truth; exalted among the nations and made the means of diffusing thy light to distant lands, and to Jews and Gentiles through the earth, what thanks are due unto Thee for such distinguished blessings! Great also are our daily family blessings, in the measure of health and strength which we enjoy, and the large share of domestic mercies, the hourly social comforts, and the spiritual advantages which Thou hast bestowed. All our blessings come truly from Thee, though many of them, from thy purpose of love to endear us to one another, are given by the hands of our fellow-creatures. Thou, Thou only, art the true source and original fountain of all.

But we desire in lively faith to look at thy deeper goodness still, not merely in what is at present good and pleasant, but also as really manifested in what is painful. O may we see enlarged love in the chastenings, yea, even in the scourgings of thy hand; knowing that though no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous but grievous, yet that afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness. Help us then to glorify Thee in trials by patience and meekness, and give us to rejoice in the blessed effects of tribulation.

Assist us by thy grace through this day. Let us fall into no sin; let us run into no kind of danger: order all our doings by thy governance, that we may do always what is righteous in thy sight. Grant that we may remember that Thou hast appointed to each of us our station and our daily work, and that it is the Lord's work; and enable us to fulfil it, not negligently but diligently, with a fervent spirit and a joyful and glad heart. Be present with us in all our occupations. In our daily duties grant that we may have fellowship with Thee, O Father, and with thy Son, Jesus Christ, and know what it is to walk in thy light and love, O thou God of all wisdom and of all goodness.

Bless thy church in all the earth. Deliver it and preserve it from corruption within, and from enemies without,

and let it continually increase. Speedily bring to an end the imposture of Mahomet and the delusions of Popery; and consume the Man of Sin with the spirit of thy mouth. Speedily manifest the brightness of thy coming. We thank Thee for all the efforts now making to scatter the seed of thy word throughout the world. We bless Thee that we live in a day in which we see so many signs of thy coming, kingdom, and glory. Oh stir us up to watch and pray, and be diligent to be found of thee in peace. Let our time and influence, and property, and strength be willingly and cheerfully given to him who has bought us with his blood.

Bless our Queen and all the Royal Family, and all in authority. Preserve and extend loyalty and obedience, founded on reverence for thy holy word, among all classes of society. Bless our bishops, priests, and deacons, and cause them to spread throughout our country the full spiritual blessings for which our church has been established, so that no corner of the land may be destitute of the means of grace, or without a laborious, efficient, and faithful ministry of thy word among all classes and orders of men. Promote piety in our army and navy. Let thy Sabbaths and all thine ordinances be honoured and observed throughout the land; so that we may, as a nation, be a people fearing God and working righteousness. Grant these blessings, for Christ's sake.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

OUR CARE CAST ON GOD—THE COMING OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM SOUGHT.

O Thou who art the God of peace and love, we desire to come out of all the distracting cares and occupations of this sinful world, and to seek thy face in and through Jesus Christ. Incline our hearts by thy Spirit, that we may draw near to Thee, and do Thou Thyself now draw nigh to us and manifest thy presence and blessing.

We would cast all our cares on Thee, whatsoever those cares may be, whether bodily or spiritual, personal or domestic, temporal or eternal. We are sure that in every care Thou carest for us; nor can a sorrow come to us, but it is known to Thee, and in all our afflictions, our sympathizing Redeemer is afflicted. Help us then to be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, to make our requests known unto Thee. Oh remove from us the load of guilt through faith in the blood of Jesus. Oh deliver us from the power of sin, by the mighty and immediate aid of thy Holy Spirit. Oh deliver us from all worldly anxieties, by assured confidence in thy faithful word.

Thou knowest, O Lord, the peculiar temptation of each of us, and thou knowest our peculiar weakness, and thou hast ever suited our temptations to our peculiar strength —that we should not be tempted above that we are able to bear, but should in every temptation have a way to escape. Oh give us grace then to call upon Thee in the season of trial, and by thy strength to be faithful when tried. Continue to guide us with infinite wisdom, mercy and love. Let us ever do thy will, and give up ourselves unto that divine Saviour who for us resisted sin unto blood, when he shed his own blood on the accursed tree for our sins. Let us too be faithful even unto death, that we may receive the crown of life.

We cannot count up all thy mercies, so great is the sum of them; mercies to our bodies, mercies to our souls, mercies to our neighbourhood, mercies to our nation, mercies to our church, and to the whole world. We give thee glory for all. How highly hast Thou favoured our land, in giving us the light of thy truth and the abundance of thy word, and enabling us to bear that light and communicate of that abundance to others!

O Lord, preserve these blessings to us. Bless the powers which rule over this country. Save us from wicked and unreasonable men, for all men have not faith. Save us from the deceivableness of unrighteousness in the apostacy

of Popery ; and bring into the way of truth all those who have been deceived by it. Save us from the raging floods of lawlessness and infidelity. Provide the means of grace for every dark place in the land. Multiply churches and teachers in all the destitute parts of the country. Deliver us from the prevailing ignorance and ungodliness, and from all Sabbath-breaking, swearing, and licentiousness, and let the knowledge and love, and fear of God prevail and triumph over all darkness and alienation of mind from God, and over all wickedness.

O Lord, who hast given us great promises of thy future glory, and who hast taught us to pray, "Thy kingdom come," fulfil these promises to us, that thy church may with full joy of realized triumph have to cry, The Lord reigneth. O hasten the time when the nations shall beat their swords into plough-shares and their spears into pruning hooks, and the Prince of Peace shall reign in every land ; and there shall be abundance of peace as long as the moon endureth : and the earth shall be full of righteousness, reflecting the holiness of heaven, for thy will shall be done on earth even as it is in heaven.

All this we confidently ask, because Jesus is worthy, and we offer up all our prayers in his name and through his mediation. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

THE THRONE OF JUDGMENT AND THE THRONE OF GRACE —ADOPTION SOUGHT.

O righteous and eternal God, who triest the hearts and the reins, create in us a clean heart. Thou hast declared that Thou wilt bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil : Help us to live in the constant recollection that we must stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, and receive the things done in our bodies, whether good or evil ; and to bless Thee for thy loving-kindness in now appointing

for us and revealing to us a throne of grace, open to all who need that grace. We come to Thee, seated now on that throne of grace, and in this accepted time, we ask that we may all obtain mercy for our many sins, and grace in time of need to overcome every corruption, and do that which is good and acceptable before Thee.

We bless Thee that Thou hast revealed to us the righteousness of God, which is by faith of Jesus Christ, unto all and upon all them that believe; and that we are justified freely by thy grace through his redemption. O give unto us faith in the blood of Jesus, and grace to be fully assured that what Thou hast promised, Thou art able also to perform. Thus let our faith bring glory to thy great name, fill us with pure and holy love, enable us to triumph over the world, the flesh and the devil, and prepare our souls to meet Thee in judgment, seeing that whosoever believeth in Jesus, thy only-begotten Son, shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

O heavenly Father, look upon this thy family for which thy Son Jesus died, and to which thy Spirit is promised, and give unto us more and more of the spirit of adoption, that we may look to Thee as our Father, and cry Abba, Father, and have entire confidence of heart in Thee, and fervent glowing love, and unreserved devotedness to Thee. Preserve us from all evil. Give unto us all that Thou seest good for us. Assist us in every duty. Look in mercy on the peculiar state and circumstances of each of our souls, guarding us from the snares and dangers to which we are exposed, and enabling us to fulfil that special service in thy kingdom, to which Thou hast called us. Lord, help us to attend first to near and immediate duties. Keep us from being careful and troubled about the future. Let us not be anxious about to-morrow; but to-day, while it is called to-day, let us hear thy voice and live. Give us to act in faith, hope, and love, ever minding these three things, and remembering that the greatest of these is love, and God himself is love. Make us, then, Oh make us like thyself, and let us bear Thine own image.

Lord, grant to us very largely the supply of the Spirit of Christ. Baptize us, O Jesus, with the Holy Ghost, and by his powerful inworking, may we this day, and continually, bring forth all the fruits of true righteousness.

Prepare us for the day of Christ. Let us ever take heed to ourselves, and not be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, lest that day come upon us unawares and as a snare ; and seeing that vast multitudes that dwell on the face of the whole earth shall be thus unprepared, keep us from walking in the course of this world. Gracious God, make us watchful and prayerful, that we may be accounted worthy to escape all those things which shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Spare our country, and give us true repentance, and make us a far larger blessing to all countries. Bless our Queen, our Prince, and their royal offspring, and make them nursing-fathers and nursing-mothers to the faithful witnesses of thy truth. Bless the whole Church of Christ. Bless our own immediate neighbourhood, minister, and parish, and our relatives and friends. Make us truly Thine, now and evermore, and vessels of thy mercy to others, through Jesus our Redeemer.

THURSDAY EVENING.

SIN CONFESSED, FAITH IN CHRIST DESIRED, AND THAT AFFLICTIONS MAY BE SANCTIFIED.

Thou great and glorious God, who in the heavens can be compared unto the Lord! who is a strong Lord like unto Thee, or to thy faithfulness round about Thee ; Thou art to be had in reverence of all them that approach unto Thee. We would worship Thee, in deep abasement of soul, acknowledging our innumerable sins, and coming unto Thee through that propitiation for our sins, even Jesus Christ the Lord, which Thou thyself hast provided for us.

We have all gone astray like lost sheep; we have grievously offended Thee by transgressions of thy law and neglect of thy gospel: our omissions of duty are many; our sins have been wilful and perverse, repeated and accumulated; and even had we done all that is required of us, we should have been but unprofitable servants. Forgive the many sins even of this day; our negligence in the Lord's work; our eagerness in the trifles of time and sense; and our coldness and indifference about thy service, thy glory, thy kingdom, and the salvation of perishing souls. Pardon us freely: pardon us fully: pardon us now. May we see and know the abundant redemption which there is in Christ; and truly believe that he has put away our sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Strengthen our faith in all which Jesus has done for us. Give us to know and rejoice in his saving grace, and let it effectually teach us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world. Teach us ever to look for the glorious appearing of our Lord and Saviour. Oh may we never lose this blessed hope, may it never be dimmed in our minds, by looking at the things which are seen and temporal, but may we ever be looking at those things which are not seen, and are eternal.

O Lord, let all our trials, sorrows, and difficulties, work for our soul's welfare. Let us ever give glory to thy wisdom and love, thy truth and holiness in them, and be preserved from all hard thoughts of Thee, and all murmuring and repining against Thee. Make us even joyful in tribulation; knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope that maketh not ashamed. God Almighty grant us such grace, that this blessed fruit may grow from all our troubles!

Bless all around us, and all for whom we ought to pray. Some are suffering from disease and sickness, and confined in their own chamber; visit them with thy grace and love. Some are in trouble and distress from losses and family afflictions: sanctify all for their good. Some are

burdened with sin; lead them to Christ. Some are careless and impenitent: Oh awaken them to their real danger, and give them true repentance. Some are scoffers: Lord, change and convert them, and bring them to a better mind. Grace and peace be to all thy saints. Add to their number continually, till all Thine elect be gathered into thy fold, and Jesus return in glory.

All praise be unto Thee for continued mercies this day. The earth is full of thy goodness, and so is the great and wide sea. We bless thy holy name for all the riches of redeeming love in what is past, and what is present, and what is to come: and let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord; through Jesus Christ, our High Priest and Advocate, our Saviour and our Redeemer. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

JEHOVAH ADORED, THE AID OF THE SPIRIT AND THE GRACE OF CHRIST SOUGHT, AND CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS DESIRED.

Eternal Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the one living and true God, we bless Thee, who hast called us to the knowledge of thyself, and hast given to us the gracious title of sons and daughters in thy family, through faith in Jesus, the only-begotten Son of the Most High God. We now unite together with angels and archangels, in praising Thee, and saying, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts, the whole earth is full of thy glory.

O Holy Spirit, the intercessor to help our infirmities in prayer, grant us thine aid that we may pray in the Holy Ghost, with all that faith and humility, that contrition and earnestness, and that glowing desire and love, which are the fruit of thy grace. Do Thou enable us to offer up the fervent and effectual prayer which availeth much.

And, O Jesus, for ever blessed be thy name for that full propitiation for the sins of the whole world, which Thou as our High Priest hast made in thy own sacrifice on the

cross, and which Thou dost now, as our advocate, plead with the Father for us. We would view Thee in the midst of the throne in heaven as the Lamb slain ; and would join the blessed company there in crying aloud, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

O Divine Redeemer, who wast once crucified for us, ever let thy grace be imparted to us and be sufficient for us. Let us now follow Thee, and crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts, and by Thee be crucified to the world, and the world to us. O let not our treasure be in this world. Let none of us lay up treasures for ourselves, where moth and rust corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal ; but all of us lay up treasure for ourselves in heaven, that our hearts may be there where our treasure is.

We earnestly beseech Thee, Father, draw us to Christ more and more ; fill our souls with love to Him in whom Thou delightest. Though we have not seen him, yet knowing his grace, may we fervently love him , and believing in him, may we rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory, receiving the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls.

Grant to each member of our family thy saving grace. Oh let the governing principle of our household be, to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Deliver us from pride, vanity, and high-mindedness. Preserve us from despising others. Make us contrite and humble ; make us meek, and patient, and loving to all men, and especially to those who are in humbler circumstances. Let us know that all which we have is Thine, and to be strictly accounted for to Thee ; and let us glory only in the Lord. Make us truly considerate of the wants, and feelings, and necessities of others, and deliver us from a contracted and narrow selfishness, from looking only at our own things and not at the things of others also.

Let the light of Divine truth, and the doctrine of free

salvation through Jesus, shine all over the world, and multitudes everywhere be enlightened and walk in the light of it. Convert the Jews. Make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. Have pity upon our guilty land, and the multitudes among us who neglect thy great salvation, and live as without God in the world. Give us not over to wicked men and their evil counsels. But still spare us, and enable thy church joyfully to serve Thee in all good works.

We ask every thing in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY EVENING.

GOD'S MERCIES TO US, AND OUR SINS AGAINST HIM—PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Almighty Father, the God of the spirits of all flesh, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders; tender in thy compassion, deep in thy love, boundless in thy mercies! we glory in all thine infinite perfections, as displayed to us in the face of Jesus Christ, and exult in the confidence that this God is our God, and shall be our guide even unto death.

O Lord, glory be to Thee for all thy gracious providence in all thy dealings. We bless Thee that when trials come upon us, we may see in them tokens of thy love, and proofs that we belong to the children of the living God. We bless Thee that in the midst of our many wants, we can come to Thee, as a Father who knows them before we ask him, and who has all wisdom and love, power and riches, to supply all our need. We do then together, at the close of this day, exalt and magnify thy holy name. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

Divine Spirit, the Comforter, come unto us and abide with us for ever. Give us full confidence in our God.

Give us the Spirit of adoption, the spirit of grace and of glory. Fill us with ardent, persevering, untiring, intense love, even as the heavenly hosts who love God with a perfect love. Assure our hearts that goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life, and that we shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

O merciful God, when we look to Thee in Jesus our Redeemer, we see Thee thus great and glorious and full of goodness, even to us, thy sinful creatures. What reason then have we, when looking on ourselves, to loath and abhor ourselves! Thou seest us rebellious and ungrateful and alienated from Thee. Thou beholdest us weak and wayward, blind and sinful, shaken by temptation, yielding to our enemy and thy enemy, and continually turning from our true interest and welfare, to some deceitful vanity or wickedness of this evil world. Oh then visit us with thy salvation! Look in mercy upon us, as Thou usest to do unto those who love thy name.

Give us that mercy and help which we so constantly need in all our weakness, sinfulness, and necessities. Pardon the many sins which we have each committed in thy sight, whatever they may have been, and restore peace to our burdened and disturbed minds, and quiet our accusing consciences, through the sprinkling afresh upon our souls of the blood of Christ.

Enable us, by the eye of faith, to discern and discover thy righteousness and love in everything, and give us to testify thy grace to all around. Do thou thyself, O God, comfort the mourners, help the poor, deliver the distressed, enlighten the ignorant, and convert the unconverted. Give us ever a heart to care for others, and preserve us from the mockery of a love with dissimulation; which is content with words, and has no corresponding acts of labour and self-sacrifice. Let our love to others be unfeigned and fervent.

Preserve our beloved church in the faithful and full confession of Protestant Truth entrusted to us in the blessed Reformation, and enable us to maintain it, till the Lord

come and receive us unto himself; and stir us up to send this truth far and wide through every land, to bless all nations.

Hear and answer us, for our Redeemer's sake.

SATURDAY MORNING.

STRENGTH TO PERFORM DAILY DUTIES AS UNTO THE LORD.

O our God, who art the God of salvation, and the Lord God to whom belong the issues from death, receive us thy sinful children, justly exposed through sin to death and eternal ruin, and save our souls. We bless Thee that Jesus our Redeemer has ascended on high, led captivity captive, and received gifts for men, yea, even for the rebellious, that Thou the Lord our God mightest dwell among us. We now come unto Thee bewailing our many rebellions, and imploring Thee to bestow those gifts which Jesus has received for us.

The duties of another day are now before us, and we have no strength to fulfil them with a single eye to thy glory and a single heart in thy service. Assist us by thy mighty grace. Let us not shrink from any duty because it is laborious, painful, or self-denying; we are so weak and perverse, that when we know thy will, we are insufficient of ourselves to do it: we are so blind, that often we cannot discern the way in which we should walk. Give us then light to see, a heart to choose, and strength to do thy will in every thing.

Assist each of us according to our peculiar need, whether parents or children, teachers or learners, masters or servants. Give each of us so to discharge our peculiar and direct duties to Thee and to one another, as shall most promote thy glory and the good of all around. Let those at the head of the family remember that they have a Master in heaven; let those who serve, remember that they serve the Lord Christ; and the children, not merely be subject

to an earthly parent, but also be in subjection to the Father of our Spirits. Oh let us obtain fresh life from Thee : the life of the soul, the life of faith, hope, and love, the mind of the Spirit ; and all that spiritual life which those have, who are in subjection to Thee, the Father of spirits.

Bless our Queen, the Prince, the royal family, the ministers of state, the houses of Parliament, the nobility, the judges, the magistrates, and all in authority, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Bless the church to which we belong, and all the churches of Christ. Assist thy ministers in their private meditations and in preparing for their public work, and assist all thy people so to prepare all things before hand, that the Sabbath may, as much as practicable, be entirely given to its holy and heavenly occupation.

O Lord, thine enemies are full of zeal, and abound in wickedness. O God, arise, and let all thine enemies be scattered, and let those that hate Thee flee before Thee ; but let the righteous be glad, let them rejoice before God, yea let them exceedingly rejoice. Every where let thy people be stirred up by the aboundings of iniquity, the blasphemies of infidelity, and the lawlessness of unruly men ; to be watchful and keep their garments unspotted from the world ; to be valiant for the truth as it is in Jesus ; to be pitiful and compassionate to those in error : and to seek to save men with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment spotted with the flesh.

O God of love and mercy, what thanks we owe to Thee for thy mercies to us ! Thou, Lord, art plenteous in mercy, and abundant in goodness and truth. Shed abroad more and more thy love in our hearts. Give us a believing and grateful view of all thy past dealings with us, and of all that is now present and around us, and the joyful hope of all the promised good things which are to come. O give us to see that in all thy ways Thou art wise and holy, and good, and gracious, and ever to joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

SATURDAY EVENING.

THE INTERCESSION OF CHRIST PLEADED, AND SABBATH BLESSINGS SOUGHT.

O Thou eternal God, who inhabitest eternity, with whom one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day, we, whose life is as a vapour, who have here no continuing city, do in this our day of grace and salvation, come unto Thee for eternal life and blessedness. If we, being evil, know how to give good things to our children, how much more wilt Thou, our heavenly Father, who art altogether good, give unto us good things. Give us then that unspeakably good gift, thine own Spirit to be our Teacher and Sanctifier, to create us anew, in thine own image, and strengthen us to do all thy will.

Unworthy as we are to approach unto Thee, there is one in our nature who is truly worthy, and who is thine elect, in whom thy soul delighteth. He wears our very form, and he is now at thy right hand, on thy throne, making intercession for us. By him then we come near to Thee, and now desire the joy of communion with the Father of our spirits.

Our wants are indeed many and great. We want a constant spirit of prayer, a believing heart ; a soul in which love to God and man shall be largely shed abroad from on high. Give us many spiritual blessings on the approaching Sabbath. Let it be a day remarkable for the fulness of thy grace. Bless us in all its services. Pour showers of blessing on our dry and weary souls.

Open the mouths of thy ministers to speak thy word ; open the hearts of the people to understand and receive it ; and let thy word sown bring forth fruit in them, some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred fold.

O Lord, graciously preserve us and deliver us from mere formality in prayer. Let us not, in daily and weekly confession of sin, lose the sense of what it is which we confess ; but let us feel that it is an evil thing, and very bitter,

to sin against the Lord. Let us learn to hate sin with real hatred, and not to bear with it in ourselves or in others.

Bless all the congregations of thy people on the morrow, in all the churches of Christ throughout the world. Thousands, O Lord, of the sick, would fain attend thy house, and are kept from it. Lord, bless all such with Sabbath grace while unable to come into thy courts. Tens of thousands wilfully absent themselves. Lord, convert them. Lord, teach them to prize what they now despise or disregard. Many are kept away by thy providence; some on the wide ocean, some in foreign lands, some beyond reach of the public means of grace, and some unexpectedly and unwillingly detained from them: Lord, look on them all in their respective necessities. God be merciful to his people Israel, convert and bless them, and lift up the light of his countenance upon them! O may they know the blessing of our Lord's day. God grant that Christ may speedily be the light of the Gentiles. Let all thy people, let all men with one accord unite in saying—'Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands, serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with thanksgiving.'

Thanks, eternal thanks be unto Thee, O our Father, for thy merciful kindness is great towards us, and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. The Lord is our strength and our salvation, and he shall be our song for ever.

O Lord, hear the prayers which we, a feeble company of thy sinful children, at the close of another week, and the approach of another Sabbath, have now made. We acknowledge our utter helplessness before Thee, and that in vain will prayer be offered, in vain will thy ministers preach, in vain will the song of praise ascend, if Thou pour not out of thy Spirit; if Thou do not kindle the sacred fire of prayer and praise and love; if Thou give not the seeing eye, the hearing ear, the understanding and believing heart. Grant to us and to all thy worshippers throughout the earth, these inestimable blessings, that we may worship Thee in spirit and in truth, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Fourth Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

FOR A BLESSING ON THE CHURCH IN EVERY LAND, AND ON OUR OWN EFFORTS TO DO GOOD.

O Lord, our only refuge and strength, whose eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show thyself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Thee, give us a heart truly sound, and right, and perfect in thy worship and service. Oh, enable us to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, as made of Thee unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption, and by his blood give us access with boldness unto Thee, through one Spirit.

This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it. Be Thou our joy. Be Thou our delight. Pour thy blessing upon us. Enrich all the ordinances of Thine appointment with thy grace and presence; so that we may have an unction from the Holy One, and know all things profitable for us to know, and attain thy holy mind and will, and delight in thy ways.

Assist all thy ministers. Open their mouths everywhere, boldly and fully to declare the gospel of the grace of God. Oh that the name of Jesus may be as ointment poured forth, in the midst of thousands and tens of thousands of congregations of thy people in Europe and Asia, in Africa and America, in the isles of the sea, and in vessels tra-

versing the wide ocean, and throughout the whole world on this thy holy day. Restore Jerusalem speedily. Let thy righteousness and loving-kindness be proclaimed to Jew and to Gentile; and in every assembly of thy people clothe the word of salvation with Divine power and energy, that it may awaken, convert, build up, comfort, and sanctify innumerable precious souls, and every where make ready a people, prepared for thy coming and thy glory.

Assist us in all our efforts to do good this day to the bodies or souls of those needing our help. Prosper our efforts for the instruction of our more ignorant fellow-creatures, whether old or young. Let all our thoughts and words and works be full of truth and love, and all such as shall glorify Thee and benefit man; and let none of our plans to do good fall to the ground and be lost, but all be patiently carried forward by thy grace and have a blessing from on high. Give us to see the fruit of our labours, and to know of a truth that our God is with us.

Hear us for the only sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

ADORATION—CONFESSION—PRAYER TO BE PRESERVED FROM A HARDENED HEART.

O Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, who dwellest in the highest heavens, on a throne of glory, encompassed with seraphim and all the glorified hosts of heaven, Thou art the God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth, Thou hast made heaven and earth: we worship Thee. Thou wast in Christ reconciling the world unto thyself, not imputing their trespasses unto them. We bless thy holy name, who redeemest our life from destruction, and crownest us with loving-kindness and tender mercies.

O Lord, receive the prayers and praises of thy whole church throughout the world, this day presented unto

Thee. May they ascend up unto Thee through the mediation and intercession of our great High-Priest, who is now in thy presence, and stands at thy altar, and with the golden censer, and with much incense, offers the prayers of all thy saints before thy throne. Send down from above, that Divine grace and power by which sin shall be vanquished, the world overcome, Satan subdued, and all the fruits of righteousness be largely yielded up by us and all thy people to thy glory.

O Lord, forgive all the sins of our services this day. How many are our Sabbath sins! In past days how many broken Sabbaths, unimproved opportunities, and lost privileges; and, alas! how do we still fall short in everything of thy glory! How often has the Sabbath been to us rather a weariness than a delight; a formal service, and not a spiritual enjoyment; a burden, and not a privilege! How often have vain imaginations, wanderings of heart, and distractions of mind, mingled with and polluted all its holy duties even to this very day. Blot out all our sins for thy name's sake; and give us a believing penitent heart, that receiving thy word in faith and meekness, we may be not only hearers but doers of it also. Make our hearts truly to receive and gladly to obey. Oh preserve us from a hardened heart. Keep us from tempting and provoking God. Keep us from erring in our hearts, and from ignorance of thy ways, and enable us so to believe, that we may finally enter that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

Bless thy faithful ministers in their own souls, and in their families; make them burning and shining lights to thy church. Make thy people watchful and prayerful. Let us remember all the solemn admonitions to be ready for the Lord's coming: and keep us from the temptation of thinking Thee slack concerning thy promise. Let our loins ever be girded about, and our lights burning, and we ourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, that when he cometh we may open to him immediately. O Lord Jesus, hear us for thy own name's sake. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

PRAISE—CONFESSION—A BLESSING SOUGHT ON THE WORD PREACHED.

Almighty Lord, whose eyes are in every place, beholding the evil and the good, help us now by faith to draw near unto Thee. Thou art the God of our family, into whose name of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, we have all been baptized, and to whom we desire ever to live; and we praise Thee, we exalt Thee, we give Thee glory, as the only living and true God, God over all things in heaven and in earth, now and for ever.

We praise Thee for all the mercies of another morning, for thy protection through the night, for the measure of health and strength which we enjoy, for our family comforts and family love, for our religious privileges and the many means of grace. O Lord, what thanks shall we render for thy holy word; for the gifts of thy only-begotten Son himself, for the indwelling of Thine own Spirit, and for the blessed hope of living with our Saviour in those glorious mansions which He is now preparing for us! Oh give us grace to take the cup of salvation. Oh give us grace to believe all thy love, to rejoice in it, and to love him who has so first loved us.

Unworthy, utterly unworthy, are we of these thy mercies. We have walked every one in his own way. We have all departed from our first and best and most tender Father and Friend. By unbelief, by alienation of heart, by self-will, and pride, and selfishness, and impenitence, we have all offended Thee. O let thy Spirit so bring home to our hearts thy love and our ingratitude and perverseness, as to remove that in us which is hard and stony. and make us humble and contrite in thy sight. Like Job, let every one of us see our own sinfulness, and with broken hearts and self-abhorrence exclaim, Behold, I am vile: I abhor myself: I repent in dust and ashes.

And while our mouths are thus stopped, and we every

one acknowledge that we are guilty before Thee, reveal to us the full preciousness of Christ ; the length and breadth, the depth and height of his love which passeth knowledge. May Thine own Spirit continually take of the things of Christ, and show them to us. Let him show us things to come. Let him glorify Christ more and more, to us, and in us, and by us.

O Lord, sanctify us by the truths which we yesterday heard : make us thereby free from sin, and at liberty to serve Thee : give unto us that best and only true liberty. Give us to manifest the truth in a holy and devoted life, ever looking to Jesus, and seeking to tread in his steps.

Bless all who with us heard the word of salvation, both in our own church and in all other churches throughout the world. May the joyful sound gladden every land. Convert the Jews, bring in the fulness of the Gentiles : hasten the Redeemer's return and the restitution of all things. Bless our country and our colonies, our Queen, our Prince, and their royal offspring, and make them ministers of good to thy church and this nation, and direct all concerning us as shall be most for thy glory in the good of all mankind, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

FOR FAITH IN CHRIST'S LOVE, AND HATRED OF SIN.

Heavenly King, the Lord of all, help us to see that it is our privilege to know Thee as our Father, and by faith to discern Thee as now in the midst of us. We bless Thee that while thy glory is revealed to adoring cherubim and seraphim, angels and archangels, in the highest heaven, we too may come near to Thee by Jesus Christ through one Spirit, and partake of thy manifested presence and favour.

Grant unto us, now approaching to Thee, rest and refreshment of spirit, inward strength and Divine comfort, through the pardon of all our sins and the gracious gift

of Thine own Holy Spirit. We acknowledge together that we have this day again sinned against Thee. We have not, as we should have done, denied our own will, our own pleasure, our own interest, and our own honour, and preferred Thine in everything. We have not lived through the day as in thy presence. We have not, with a single heart, and with our whole soul and strength, loved Thee. We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. Our minds have been forgetful of our God ; we have walked by sight rather than by faith ; and our souls have cleaved to things below, instead of soaring up to Thee, and dwelling in high and heavenly places.

Look upon us in our sinfulness and misery, with thy pity and mercy. We believe in thy love to us sinners, who didst not spare Thine own Son, but didst deliver him up for us all. Lord, help our unbelief. Oh give us grace to believe all thy promises to sinners, in Christ Jesus. Help us really to trust in him with our whole hearts ; to venture, wholly and unreservedly, our eternal interests on his merit alone ; to know that He is the Saviour, and OUR Saviour from all our sins.

And oh, let us learn at the foot of his cross, and while looking at our dying Redeemer, to hate sin with real and entire detestation, and to feel that it is a bitter and an awful thing to sin against a God of holy love, who is just and faithful to forgive all sin, at such a cost as the death of his own Son. Supply through Jesus, we beseech Thee, every spiritual need of our souls. Make us daily to put off the old man and to put on the new, and to be renewed in the spirit of our minds.

Bless each relative of our families, bringing them into a full participation of the grace of Christ. Bless all our neighbours and our friends, our parish and our country. Guard us from all evil. Give peace to Jerusalem. Let thy gospel fly throughout the earth on its glorious message of love, and speedily be preached to every creature ; and let multitudes everywhere believe and be baptized and saved. Hasten the accomplishment of all thy purposes of

love, in the universal kingdom of Christ, for his name's sake.

TUESDAY MORNING.

JOY IN GOD'S PROVIDENCE—CONFORMITY TO HIS IMAGE DESIRED.

We give thanks unto Thee, O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our Father through him, for all the mercies of thy great salvation, and for the hope which is laid up for us in heaven, whereof thou hast told us in the word of the truth of the gospel. Redeemed by the blood of Jesus, we join all that call upon his name in saying, Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, be unto the Lord our God for evermore.

It is our joy to come before Thee, knowing that Thou hast done and wilt do all things well for us. We joy, O our God, to think that we are wholly in thy hands, the God of all wisdom and all power, the God of all truth, holiness and loving-kindness. We bless Thee that in and through our Lord Jesus Christ, God is our God, pardoning our sins, justifying our souls, adopting us into his family, and sanctifying us by his Spirit, and will be our guide unto death and our exceeding great reward for ever.

Mercifully assist us to show forth thy praise, and to be followers of Thee our God. Give us to partake of thy beauty and perfections ; and daily to manifest thy image and likeness in righteousness and true holiness. Help us in every duty to Thee and to man, this day, that all may be fulfilled to thy glory, and to the good of all around.

Bless each of us in our several duties. May all our reading, and the knowledge gained thereby, and all our plans and undertakings, be sanctified and consecrated to Thee, and be hereafter turned to the practical good of others. Let all the labours of our hands be undertaken for Thee, and with a constant regard to thy will and approval. Give us in every thing we do to think less of

ourselves and more of Thee. Give us largeness of heart, not to look on our own things merely, but to rejoice to look on the things of others also.

Oh that we may become like our great Master and Saviour in every thing, and have the very spirit of our good and gracious Redeemer! Make us more like him, in holiness and purity; more like him in meekness and gentleness; more like him, in tenderness and compassion; more like him, in self-sacrificing love and goodness; till at length we come to see Him as He is, and know as we are known.

Give us full assurance that all thy chastenings come from thy love; and cause them to yield in us the peaceable fruits of righteousness. Wean us from earth; and work out for us, while looking to things unseen and above, a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

We pray for ourselves, and for all who believe in the Lord Jesus, and love thy saints; that we may be filled with the knowledge of thy will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that we may walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing; being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; and that we may be strengthened with all might, according to thy glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness.

Thanks be unto Thee for thy mercies to our country, our Queen, the royal family, and the rulers whom Thou hast set over us. Pardon our many national sins; continue to bless us; and make us a people fearing Thee and working righteousness. Unite as one all thy faithful followers, and fill the whole earth with thy glory, through Jesus our Redeemer.

TUESDAY EVENING.

FOR REPENTANCE AND FREE JUSTIFICATION.

O God of love and peace, be with us: be merciful to us and bless us, and cause thy face to shine upon us, while

we now, as one family, together approach unto Thee in the name of Jesus Christ. Thou art the eternal Jehovah, the most holy Lord of all, the immortal, invisible, and only wise God, and we are sinful and have done much evil in thy sight. We confess before Thee, that in the day which is now past, we have added many sins to our former sins ; and that if Thou wert extreme to mark what we have done amiss, we could not stand before Thee.

O Lord, give us grace not only to confess our iniquities, but to mourn and grieve for them, as destructive to our souls, as dishonourable to thy name, and as committed against light and knowledge, and thy revealed love, and our many and deep obligations and solemn vows. We have no excuse in ourselves. We condemn ourselves. Our mouths are justly stopped, and we own our guilt in thy sight.

And therefore we fly for refuge to lay hold on the hope set before us in thy gospel. We plead before Thee thy precious promise, that to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Oh let it now be given unto us, to believe in the name of Christ. Give unto us, we beseech Thee, repentance unto life. Give unto us to live continually by faith in Jesus. Give us daily to repent of sin, and daily to trust in Thee, and more and more, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to be dead unto sin and alive unto God.

O grant us grace continually to behold that Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world, and to be ever looking to him who bore our sins in his own body on the tree, and on whom Thou hast laid the iniquities of us all, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

O Lord Jesus, dwell in our hearts by faith ; and by thine own Spirit fill our souls with love to thyself who hast so loved us, that we may hereafter live to him who died for us. Quicken us to walk in thy ways. Revive thy work mightily in us. Subdue our sins, and sanctify us wholly ; making us like thyself, and delivering every one of us from

our peculiar dangers and temptations, and enabling every one to adorn thy doctrine in all things, and occupy all the talents given to us, to the glory of Thee the Giver.

We thank Thee from the heart for all thy mercies: for any preservation from evil, any help in duty, and any services rendered to others, all glory be to Thee. All is of Thee. Oh receive our day's labour as a willing service rendered unto Thee our Heavenly Master.

Take us and ours into thy care this night. Guard us and all we love, and all for whom we ought to pray, from every evil. Relieve the distressed, succour the tempted. Execute judgment for the oppressed. Give food for the hungry. Beautify the meek with salvation, and let them speedily inherit the earth. Hear us, O our God, for Jesus' sake.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

FOR SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD, AND GRACE TO BE GIVEN TO EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

O Lord, our rock and our fortress, our deliverer and our strength, in Thee will we trust and Thee will we love, for the light of the knowledge of thy glory has shined in our hearts in the face of Jesus Christ: we have been baptized in his name, and we beseech Thee to baptize us with his Spirit now and evermore.

We desire as a family to come out and be separate from a world lying in wickedness, and not to touch the unclean thing. We would never be unequally yoked with unbelievers. We would have no fellowship with unrighteousness, no part with infidels, no concord with Belial,—but have fellowship with righteousness, have communion with light, have concord with Christ, have part with believers, have agreement with the Temple of God. Make us truly the temples of the living God, and do Thou dwell in us and walk in us; be our God, and make us thy people. O Father, receive us into thy family, and be a Father unto

us, and let us be the sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty.

Give us grace to be followers and imitators of God, as dear children. Strengthen every one of us for the duty of that station in which Thou hast appointed that we should do thy will and glorify thy name, whether it be ruling or serving, teaching or learning, directing or labouring ; whatever be our respective work and occupation, let us do it heartily and joyfully, as unto the Lord, and not unto men. Preserve every one of us from our besetting sin ; whether it be love of the world, in its riches, pleasures, or honours,—or self-wisdom and self-will—or pride, vanity, indolence, or selfishness—or self-righteousness, or vainglory, or any other filthiness of the flesh or of the spirit ; make us to loathe and abhor all sin, especially in ourselves, and cleanse us from it by the blood of Jesus and the power of his Spirit.

Nor fail to give us, we beseech Thee, the same mind which was in Christ Jesus. He is appointed by Thee not only as our Saviour, but our example. Thou wouldest have us to attain his likeness. Oh give unto us then his devotedness ; his earnest, patient, and diligent zeal ; his spirit of prayer ; the depths of his humility—the tenderness of his compassion—the strength of his confidence—and the ardour of his love. We open our mouth wide according to thy command, that Thou mayest fill it according to thy exhaustless fulness of grace.

Bless our Queen and our national councils. Direct all public measures for the good of this great nation and of the whole earth, in that remarkable day in which we live. Let all the power, riches, commerce, and influence which Thou hast given us be used for thy glory. Fulfil thy promises to Israel, and through them bless all nations, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

FOR FAITH IN PROMISES TO PRAYER, AND FOR QUICKENING GRACE.

Glory be to Thee, O God, most high and most holy, most just and merciful, for all that thou art in thyself, and for all thy dealings with us thy sinful creatures. Thou hast told us that herein is love, not that we loved Thee, but that Thou hast loved us, and sent thy Son to be the propitiation for our sins. We believe this thy love. Help our unbelief, while through that propitiation we again approach unto Thee, pleading the promise that when two of us shall agree as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of Thee our Father which art in heaven.

Oh, give us to believe what thou hast said, with full and growing confidence, and to know that the feeble prayers which we are now offering are really heard by Thee, and are powerful to obtain for us the help which we need, because we have a High Priest ever living to make intercession for us.

Enable us with the heart to believe unto righteousness, and with the mouth to make confession unto salvation. Let us never be ashamed of Christ and his gospel, but fully testify of him, in the face of the world now, that he may confess us before Thee at the last day.

Quicken us, O Lord! for we suffer greatly under the deadening effects of intercourse with the world. Preserve us unspotted from it, and give us to possess that pure and undefiled religion, which visits the destitute and the helpless in their affliction.

Thou knowest that we are sore let and hindered in running the way of thy commandments, by much occupation and many cares; by vain thoughts; by levity, pride, and unbelief. Oh awaken our souls from all carelessness and indifference, and from all drowsiness and dulness in the things of God. Work in us to will and to do of thy good

pleasure, and stir us up to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling.

Thou seest our ignorance,—teach us good knowledge : Thou seest our deadness,—revive the life and power of godliness in our hearts : Thou seest our worldliness,—O let us at length, by the cross of Christ, be crucified to the world and the world to us ; Thou seest our many entanglements in the bustle and company and pursuits of this life ; give us grace to break through all our snares. Let not the good seed of the word be choked in our hearts, but give to it full increase, that it may bring forth much fruit.

Look upon all connected with us as fellow-parishioners and fellow-members of one Church : make them truly thine, and let them grow in grace, glorify thy name, and be a blessing to others. Look in mercy upon those who have hitherto neglected thy great salvation ; who, year after year, with continually-increasing guilt, refuse thy grace ; and now at length convert them, before the day of salvation be past, and their hearts become wholly hardened in sin. Save our country from foes within and without. Guide our rulers. Bless our bishops, priests, and deacons. Bless all the ministers and missionaries of Christ in every land, and bring all nations whom Thou hast made to come and worship before Thee and glorify thy name, for Jesus' sake.

THURSDAY MORNING.

FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT.

O Thou, who art a just God and a Saviour, and there is none beside Thee, forming the light and creating darkness, making peace and creating evil, doing all things,—we worship together and adore Thee. Thou art most holy and most true : yet merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. Through one Lord Jesus Christ, and by one Spirit, with bended knees, and a confiding, grateful

and glad heart, we would come before Thee. Put thy fear into our hearts, that we may never depart from Thee.

Thanks be unto Thee, Thou Giver of all good, for the most precious gift of thy love, Jesus Christ. How could we, sinful as we are, come near unto Thee but by him! How could we see and know Thee but by seeing Jesus! How could we have any communion with Thee but by his grace! In thy light alone can we see light, and behold as in a glass thy glory, and be changed into the same image. Thanksgiving, praise, and glory be to God for his unspeakable gift.

And seeing, O our most merciful Father, that Thou hast given us thy Son, withhold not also thine own Spirit. Give us, O Father, freely, that great gift which we now most of all want for our souls' renewal and prosperity. Thy Son, the faithful witness, has declared, that if we, being evil, know how to give good gifts to our children, much more shall our heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him. We know, O our God, that these are true words: he, who is the truth, has spoken them. We cast ourselves on thy faithfulness. We believe thy promise, and in the name of Jesus we ask, that we may now receive thy blessed Spirit. O Holy Ghost, teach us. O Holy Ghost, guide us unto all truth—sanctify us by the truth—uphold us to the end—comfort us in sorrow—give us joy in the Lord—and prepare us for His kingdom and glory.

Holy Father, give not the Holy Ghost to us thy waiting children in small measure, but largely pour upon us showers of thy grace. Baptize us with thy Spirit, fill our souls with his grace and unction, so that we may abound in joy, and peace and hope, and holy love, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

We beseech Thee for an enlarging, growing, and deepening knowledge of thy truth. Grant us grace ever to search the Scriptures diligently, with prayer, practically, and with patient meditation and perseverance. Give us more light and understanding in thy word, and grant that this

light may cheer, and warm and bless not only our own souls, but the souls of all around.

Grant us also fervent, glowing, supreme and intense love to Thee, and zeal to do good unto all men, and especially to the household of faith. Stir us up to look diligently lest we fail of the grace of God, and to follow peace and holiness day by day. Let the hope of seeing Thee, the great and glorious God, rouse us to strive more and more after holiness, and to come unto Jesus to purify us unto himself among his peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Bless all for whom we ought to pray, make us considerate, not only of those in our immediate circle, but of the wants of all with whom we have any thing to do. Bless our kindred, our neighbours, our friends, our church, the whole church of Christ, our rulers, our country, our colonies, and Jews and Gentiles throughout the earth. Pour out of thy Spirit on all, and now and ever take us under thy care and providence, through Jesus Christ.

THURSDAY EVENING.

FOR FORGIVENESS AND THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION—INTERCESSION.

O Lord, the great and mighty God, glorious in holiness, a consuming fire and a jealous God, ever to be had in reverence, and a merciful God waiting to be gracious, and ever to be trusted : we would come into thy presence with filial fear and child-like confidence, by Jesus Christ, thine own appointed way for our return unto Thee. Do Thou thyself draw us, that we may come unto Thee. By him, as the door of the sheep, may we the sheep of thy fold, enter in and be saved, and go in and out and find pasture.

O Lord, we thank Thee for all the truths of thy holy word. May we diligently search into them and receive them with faith, meekness, and gladness of heart. Give us simple faith in every part of thy word, and let it be to

us a full warrant for all which it testifies, and make it thine own means of communicating to us continually increasing faith. Make it a lamp to our feet and a light to our paths, by taking heed to which, we may cleanse our way, through a world full of pollution and sin.

Forgive, O Lord, forgive all our sins. We were born in sin; we are transgressors from the womb, and from our youth up we have continually trespassed in thy sight; doing what we ought not, and leaving undone what Thou hast commanded us to do. In this very day we have been backward in self-denial, and in taking up our cross; we have been slow to speak and act for thee; thy presence has been disregarded, and thy glory not sought; thy law has been disobeyed, thy gospel neglected, and duties and privileges have been lost sight of. Thus we have been cold in thy service, and worldly, and selfish, and vain, and unbelieving. Our secret faults are many, and we have wearied thy patience with our iniquities.

We can indeed plead nothing in ourselves; but hast Thou not testified, "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins?" We cast these our guilty souls on thy faithful promises. Our only refuge is the Lord Jesus Christ, and thy sure promise of forgiveness of sins in his name, and of justification to all who believe in him. Give unto every one of us grace to believe thy promises, and to cleanse ourselves thereby from all filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit. We now commit ourselves and all we have and are, in dependence on thy grace in Him, unto Thee, our God and our salvation, for time and for eternity.

And now, Lord, send thy Spirit into our hearts, to bear witness with us that we are thy children: and let us hereafter walk in the liberty of the gospel, and have full confidence in thy fatherly love towards us, and rejoice in Thee; enable us henceforth with divine strength and gladness to run in the way of thy commandments.

Bless our whole family, the heads, the children, the inmates, the servants. Let the changing circumstances of thy

providence all work for our good. Bless our respective families, relatives, and friends. Provide for the poor. Heal the sick. Remember strangers and foreigners. Think of all that travel by sea or land. Succour the tempted. Bring to an end the Mystery of Iniquity, the lawlessness of self-will, and the scoffs of infidelity, and may Jesus speedily return in his glory, and reign over the whole world, as his own inheritance and possession, through all ages, for his name's sake.

FRIDAY MORNING.

FOR PERSEVERANCE AND SAVING GRACE—INTERCESSION.

Help us, O Lord, to give unto Thee the glory due unto thy name, and to worship Thee in the beauty of holiness. We thank Thee, O heavenly Father, for that full display of thy glory given in answer to the prayer of thy servant Moses on Mount Sinai, by which we know Thee as the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation. We bless Thee for the bright shining of this thy glory in all its harmony, and for the manifestation of thy righteousness and grace in our redemption, by our Lord Jesus, that through him Thou mightest be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. O let us give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endureth for ever.

In this confidence we come again before Thee, pleading thine own promise that they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. O give us renewed strength, may we rise as on eagles' wings to thee our God: may we run with patience, may we walk with stedfast perseverance in thy

ways. We continually, when engaged in thy service, feel the temptation to weariness and faintness. Bring thy promises home to our hearts, that we may be preserved from being weary in well-doing, knowing that we shall reap in due season if we faint not. Give us every one to look diligently that not one of us fail of thy grace; that no root of bitterness spring up to trouble us, and defile many.

We beseech Thee to strengthen us with the inward might which the Holy Ghost imparts, that we may crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts, and live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world. Assist us in all our thoughts, words, and works; in our going out and coming in this day, that all being under thy direction and governance, the whole day may be spent in thy faith, and fear, and love.

O Lord, Thou knowest the exact state of every one of our souls. Suffer not any of us to be deceived by sin and Satan. Let not one of us be in a carnal, unconverted state in thy sight. If any now kneeling with us know Thee not, reveal thyself to them, so that without one exception, we may all have that eternal life, which is the happy portion of those who know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.

We pray for all the churches of Christ throughout the world; especially for suffering and afflicted churches in the midst of Papal, Mahomedan, or Pagan darkness. Let them glorify God in the fires, and shine as lights in the world: holding forth the word of life.

We pray for our own land, so blessed, so exalted to heaven, so sinful, and so ungrateful for all the national mercies received, especially at the glorious Reformation. Oh make us watchful; strengthen the things which remain and are ready to die, and let us remember how we have received and heard, and hold fast, and repent, and be prepared as a nation for that day of the Lord which cometh as a thief.

Bless our family. Look upon the sick and the afflicted

around us, and ever give us sympathy in the sorrows of others. Order all things for the best good of ourselves, and all whom we would remember in our prayers, through Jesus our Redeemer.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PRAISE—CONFESSION OF SIN IN HOLY THINGS—PRAYER FOR THE UNCONVERTED.

O Lord, we will praise Thee : though Thou wast angry with us, thine anger is turned away, and Thou comfortest us. Behold, God is our salvation, we will trust and not be afraid. O Lord, what a sure foundation hast Thou laid in Zion—Jesus Christ, the rock of ages, the chief corner-stone, elect and precious, and he that believeth on him shall never be confounded ! Lord, increase our faith, and enable us with our whole heart to confide in Thee.

We would rejoice in all thy tender love towards us, and that we who were once afar off are brought nigh to Thee by the blood of Jesus. In Thee we would delight to feel that we live and move and have our being. From Thee alone come all our family blessings, our religious privileges our comforts in this life, and our hope of good things to come. We have been brought safely to the close of another day, encompassed with thy goodness on every side ; and we offer unto Thee the glad tribute of family praise and thanksgiving.

Forgive, O our God, all that thy holy eye has seen amiss in our thoughts, words, and works this day. We never attain that perfection to which Thou callest us. Our prayers want praying over again ; our repentance needs to be repented of ; our obedience is full of disobedience ; our charity needs itself to be covered by the eye of love ; all, all is short of that commandment which is exceeding broad ; all, all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. We would count all our own goodness as dross,

and follow only after thy righteousness, that we may win Christ, and be found in him.

O our God, we freely confess, that however pure our conduct may have been in the sight of man, however free from blame before our fellow-men, in thy sight all which we do is vile and polluted. We can place no confidence in the flesh: in Thee, Thee only is our hope and our glory.

We would wash our robes, and make them white in the blood of the Lamb. By that blood cleanse us afresh from all sin, quicken us afresh to all love and glad service and grateful obedience. Give us such a believing reception of the Lord Jesus, as our present, only, and complete Saviour, as shall lead us to put far away all sin with loathing and abhorrence, and to love Thee the Lord our God with all our heart, and mind, and soul, and strength.

We now commit ourselves to thy protection during the dark and helpless hours of the night. Thou art our Keeper and Protector by night and by day. The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike. Give us quiet and refreshing rest, to fit us for the duties of another day. Bless every one of us in our private devotions, nor let us ever neglect to pray in secret to our Father, which seeth in secret.

We beseech Thee to bless all around us, and all with whom we daily meet and are occupied. Sanctify all our intercourse with them. Let us never be ashamed of the gospel of Christ, nor keep our light under a bushel, but confess Christ openly before men. Convert our unconverted relatives, neighbours and friends. Give us, as a nation, grace to honour God. Roll away and scatter the dark clouds of ignorance and sin, and let the Sun of Righteousness speedily arise on all that fear thy name, with healing in his wings. We ask all for Jesus' sake.

SATURDAY MORNING.

FOR DIVINE COMPASSION AND ASSISTANCE IN DUTY.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, who dwellest on high, in the light which no man can approach unto, who hast made the world and all things therein by Jesus Christ, we worship Thee, the Lord God Almighty. In thine infinite condescension Thou humblest thyself to look on the things in the heaven and on the earth, and to raise up the poor out of the dust ; behold us with thy favour, and visit us with thy salvation, and satisfy us early with thy mercy.

We unite together to praise Thee for the mercies of another morning. We laid us down and slept, and have awaked with renewed strength and health, and restored blessings all around us, for Thou, Lord, hast sustained us. Salvation belongeth unto thee, O Lord, and thy blessing is upon thy people ; and we beseech Thee to give unto us renewed spiritual life here, and the resurrection of the saints in the world to come. Innumerable have been thy past mercies : innumerable are thy present benefits ! O Lord, still continue for ever to do us good, and to bless us.

Shed abroad thy love largely in every heart by thine own Spirit, that we may be constrained by this love to yield ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Thee. Oh preserve us from walking in the course of this world, and enable us to withstand its temptations, and to be more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Look in pity upon our many sins and infirmities. Let us fully believe and prove the power of thy word, that as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear them. Oh pity our deadness and dulness in thy service ; pity our backwardness and aversion to divine and heavenly things ; pity all our weakness and helplessness ; pity our blindness and ignorance, and all our guiltiness and corruption : and heal, Oh heal all our spiritual diseases. Our souls wait for the Lord, he is our help and

our shield. Give us all to find that in Jesus, the mighty One, there is help even for the sinful. O blessed Jesus our Lord; without Thee we can do nothing, but by thy strength we can do all things. We would labour then in thy name, striving according to thy working in us to do all the will of God.

Enable us all to be thoughtful of to-morrow's Sabbath, and to set all in order for its quiet and devout observance. Assist Thou thy ministers, and give them light, grace, and love for their high and holy office. Send them help from thy sanctuary.

Prosper us in all our daily employments. Give that measure of success in our undertakings and occupations which Thou seest to be for our good. Let us not shrink from toil and labour in the duties of our station, nor faint under them, but go through our appointed work with steady perseverance and believing cheerfulness. Grant that all the trials and deliverances, all the sorrows and joys, all the afflictions and comforts of thy people everywhere, may, by thy mighty grace, prepare us all to be vessels meet for thy heavenly kingdom. Oh, enlarge and multiply, both from Jew and Gentile in every land, that glorious company who shall through eternity admire the riches of redeeming love. Hear us, for Jesus' sake.

SATURDAY EVENING.

PREPAREDNESS FOR CHRIST'S COMING—HELP IN SABBATH DUTIES.

Hitherto, O Lord, Thou hast helped us; we love Thee because Thou hast heard our voice and our supplication. Because Thou hast inclined thine ear unto us, therefore will we call upon Thee as long as we live. Give us then grace to pray in the Holy Ghost, and by his inspiration let our prayers be fervent and effectual.

At the close of another week, and on the eve of thy holy Sabbath, we come to Thee for pardon. Thou hast

mercifully opened a fountain for sin and uncleanness; and we are sinful and unclean, and come to be washed and sanctified, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Look, O Lord, upon the particular state of every one here before Thee. Thou knowest the talent given to us to occupy, and the temptation under which each one is bowed down to the dust. Oh, strengthen and support us under temptation, and enable us to glorify Thee, preparing every one for the peculiar place which Thou hast appointed them in thy kingdom below, and thy kingdom yet to come.

We beseech Thee ever to give us a spirit waiting for our Lord's coming. Oh, let our loins be girt about and our lights burning, and we be like unto men that wait for their Lord. Let not all the remarkable signs of the times in which we live pass unregarded by us. Make us wise to discern them. May we long for the approach of that Saviour from whom cometh our help, and may our hope be so fixed on the return of our Lord, that we may purify ourselves even as he is pure, and be prepared to see the King in his beauty.

We unite in earnest prayer for a blessing on every part and duty and ordinance of thy holy day. We unfeignedly acknowledge before Thee our conviction of our entire insufficiency in ourselves to offer unto Thee any acceptable service. In vain will the prayers of the church be joined in with the lips, if Thou give not the spirit of grace and supplication; in vain will the song of praise ascend with the voice, if Thou open not our lips to show forth thy praise; in vain will thy ministers preach, if Thou give not the seeing eye, the hearing ear, and the understanding and believing heart. O Lord, supply all our need, then, out of thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Pour thy Spirit upon us. Kindle in our hearts the sacred flame of holy desire and ardent love. Give us all grace to call the Sabbath a delight, holy unto the Lord, and honourable, and preserve us all from defiling it by seeking

our own pleasure, speaking our own words, or walking in our own ways.

Anoint thy ministers afresh with heavenly unction. Make them bold in our God, to testify fully and freely the gospel of thy grace, and every where let thine own Spirit give power to thy word, for the calling in of thine elect, and the building up of thy saints, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

Fifth Week.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND FOR A BLESSING ON CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who on this first day of the week didst rise again from the dead for our justification; we bless Thee that, filled with love to us, Thou hast now led thy church to sanctify this as the Lord's day and the Christian Sabbath. Enable us, setting apart all worldly and vain thoughts, to rise to all its holy privileges and occupations.

Thou didst rise to bestow upon us all heavenly gifts, and especially the Holy Spirit, whose fruit is love, and joy, and peace. We beseech Thee, send down on our waiting souls thy blessed Spirit. O grant to us the evidence of his indwelling; by his changing the whole inner man from being earthly, sensual, and devilish, and transforming us into temples of the Holy Ghost, the vessels of mercy, and making us shining lights to glorify God and benefit our fellow-men.

O Lord, what we most of all need on this thy day is, that Thou shouldest give to us Thine own Spirit, to make intercession in us and for us. We implore this gift from Thee. Without thy Spirit our prayers will be cold, formal, full of vanities, distractions, and hypocrisies—a deception before man and a mockery before God. But

only give us thy Spirit, and we shall rise beyond the incumbrance of the flesh and the weakness of the spiritual man, and as on eagles' wings mount up to Thee, thirsting after Thee, and delighting in Thee, and worshipping Thee in spirit and in truth. Thus, O our God, this day fill our souls with light and love, and strength and gladness.

Bless thy ministers in preaching thy word. Open their minds and hearts to the truths and glories of the good tidings of great joy ; and give them, out of the fulness of their own deep feeling and experience of thy truth, to testify it to those who hear them. Oh open doors of utterance to them to speak boldly the mystery of Christ, that they may make it manifest.

O God of peace and love and all grace, bless the congregations of thy people through the world. We joy to think that the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ has so gone forth, conquering and to conquer, that myriads of churches in Europe, Asia, Africa and America, and in countless isles of the ocean, of diversified languages, manners and customs, but knowing one Father, believing in one Saviour, under the teaching of one Spirit, enlightened by one light of Divine truth, now unite in adoring and magnifying Thee and singing thy praise. O Lord, be in the midst of them : let all who know the joyful sound rejoice and be glad in thy salvation. In every assembly let Christ be exalted, sinners be drawn to him and truly converted, thy people strengthened, and thy kingdom be enlarged and glorified.

And may our own beloved country be more and more honoured of God in making Christ known to Jews and to Gentiles. We bless Thee that Thou hast put it into the hearts of those in authority in church and state, in our own country, to show favour to Zion, and to seek the good of Jerusalem. May we prosper more and more by loving Zion. Prepare us and thy whole church for the oft-foretold last tribulation, and hasten the full glories of the return of our Lord, and the complete triumph of his kingdom. Hear, graciously answer, and bless us abundantly, through Jesus Christ.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

PRAYER TO BE HEARD, AND WANTS SUPPLIED, THROUGH CHRIST.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, which was and is, and is to come, who livest for ever and ever, and who art now seated on a throne in the highest heavens, surrounded by ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of holy angels, and all the redeemed hosts above, who ever sing praises unto Thee, and ever magnify thy great name; listen also, we beseech Thee, according to Thine infinite greatness and goodness, to the feeble prayer of us thy sinful children here below.

Though we are so weak and sinful, the only Son of God took upon him our nature, and was made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. Though we are so unworthy to approach Thee, One in our nature is at the right hand of thy throne, who ever liveth to make intercession for us. Through him alone we dare come before Thee, and through him we may have access, with full confidence of heart unto Thee.

Supply all our wants out of Thine abundance of grace and mercy in Christ Jesus. We are blind as to all that is before us and as to that which most concerns us—open the eyes of our understanding, that we may discern these things. We are dark as to the beauty, reality, and glory of spiritual and heavenly things—give us light. We are weak to do what we know to be right—give us strength. We are sinful and prone to evil—give us inward holiness. We are ever ready to think highly of ourselves—Oh make us to know our own corruption and depravity, and to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Jesus Christ; that we may win Christ and be found in him. We are wavering and unstable, and soon led away by the error of the wicked—do Thou fix our affections on thyself, and unite our hearts to fear thy name.

We praise Thee for the Sabbath mercies which we have

this day enjoyed. We thank Thee, that though it be six thousand years since the Sabbath was first appointed, the blessed ordinance still continues ; that we form part of the vineyard over which Thou dost watch ; that the privileges of thy house are open unto us. Give us to see that boundless love which from eternity has been planning mercies for us, and is now accomplishing them.

Grant thy blessing, we beseech Thee, upon the truths which we have been hearing this day. Let the light which thy word gives us concerning thyself, and our duties, and our privileges, and relating to things to come, guide and cheer all our paths. Oh may we more and more prize every part of Divine truth, and know that none is without its spiritual use for our souls' profit.

Bless this place and neighbourhood, the congregation, the schools, the parents, the children, the rich, the poor, the young, the old, the sick, and the healthy, giving to each seasonable and needful grace : especially grant to the dying, true faith, and repentance unto life, and holy preparation for thy presence. Show us all how much more there is in Jesus than we have ever yet known or enjoyed, and enable us to comprehend with all saints the riches of his love. Give us grace ever to sympathize with others and feel their sufferings as our own. Let brotherly love continue. Let our parish and our country be governed by thy fear, and be a happy and united parish and country. When we look upon the sin and misery of the world, on the millions of pagans and Mahomedans, and apostate Christians, and know from thy word that the conversion of thy people Israel is an appointed means for giving light to them that sit in darkness, and shall be as life from the dead to the world, O Lord, we pray for Zion, and would give Thee no rest till Thou make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. O Jesus, it is thy command, and let our whole mind and will be moulded and conformed to thine. May we all follow Thee here, and finally reign with Thee for ever.

MONDAY MORNING.

TO SPEND THE WEEK UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SABBATH SERVICES, AND TO BE USEFUL.

We believe, O our gracious God, the faithfulness of thy word; and we are sure that Thou, the God of Israel and the God of the whole earth, the same Lord over all, art rich unto all that call upon Thee. In this confidence we now unite ourselves to the blessed company, who in every place call upon thy name; assured that what we ask, according to thy will, in the name of Jesus Christ, we shall obtain, and shall certainly find what we thus seek. Lord, we believe: help Thou our unbelief. At the commencement of the week's labours, we pray that we may live in the spirit of those services of thy house in which we were yesterday engaged; in the spirit of repentance and faith, hope and love, humility and obedience, prayer and thanksgiving. Let holiness to the Lord be inscribed on our commonest service. Let every day be as a Sabbath ordinance. May we set our hearts, with all fixedness and zeal, to run with patience the Christian race. May we earnestly seek first thy kingdom and thy righteousness. Oh help us to take fast hold of thy covenant, to put away every sin with abhorrence, to choose always those things which please Thee, and to keep judgment and do justice. May we never slight or neglect thy truth, but treasure it up in our hearts. Oh give us true and saving faith, and suffer us not by unbelief to lose the great and glorious privileges of thy eternal kingdom. Prepare us by thy grace to be meet partakers of them, and hasten the coming of that kingdom.

Fountain of light and life, grace and love, we bless and praise Thee, for Thou art good and gracious; thy mercy is great above the heavens, and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds. Be Thou exalted above the heavens, and thy glory above all the earth. Abundantly have we been blessed by Thee in body and in soul—in merciful provision

for all our wants, for time and for eternity. Above all, we thank Thee for thy mystery of godliness, Jesus our Saviour, God over all, and yet manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto us Gentiles, believed on in the world, and received up into glory.

Still bless us, O Lord, and do us good. Thy blessing alone maketh rich without sorrow. Thy blessing turns us from all our iniquities. Let the thoughts of our hearts, and the words of our lips, and the actions of our life, be under thy governance; guided by thy word, and quickened by thy Spirit; so shall they be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer.

From our own blessed experience of thy light and truth, let us and thy whole church and people everywhere communicate light and truth to all around. Preserve us from selfishness and despising others; and from disregarding their necessities. Keep us from the spirit of Nabal, thinking that all in our possession is our own, and refusing to aid others; and let us remember in how few days he was removed from all which he had thought he possessed and sought thus to preserve. O give us grace to occupy every talent, as we have opportunity, doing good to all men, and using all our strength, and influence, and abilities for Thee, till Thou return and we are called to give account with joy in thy presence. Command deliverances for Jacob, and let all the ends of the earth see thy salvation. Hear us, O our Redeemer, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all glory, now and evermore.

MONDAY EVENING.

FOR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS.

O Thou, whose name alone is Jehovah, and who art the Most High over all the earth, we adore Thee, Almighty Father, eternal Word, Holy Spirit, three persons in one God; we confess Thee to be our God, and give ourselves unto Thee to be a holy people unto the Lord.

But, O blessed Jesus, be Thou our helper and Mediator, for we can come only in thy name. Look upon us, thy unworthy disciples, who are continually grieving thy Spirit, dishonouring thy name, and breaking thy laws. We, like Esau, are too prone, for one morsel of meat, to sell our heavenly birth-right. But, blessed be thy name, there is yet space for our repentance. Oh, give us grace to repent. Show us how unsatisfying and how perishing all the delights of this world are, and how satisfying and abiding are thy favor and loving-kindness—obedience to Thee, and the partaking of the joy of thy heavenly kingdom.

O Holy Ghost, the Comforter, descend upon us and teach us. O Holy Spirit, lead us and guide us, sanctify and uphold us even unto the end. Show us things to come, and be in us a fountain of life and purity, joy and peace and love, now and evermore; bless us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly things in Christ Jesus.

O our God, let every one of us know the blessedness of those whose transgression is forgiven, and whose sin is covered; to whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity; and in whose spirit there is no guile. Give us this true blessedness of sinful creatures like us, and let us not be content with a name to live among men, or a form of religion, without the real life and power and blessedness of thy salvation.

Preserve us from all hard thoughts of others, and all feelings of bitterness, envy, malice, and hatred toward others. Whenever our inward corruption thus manifests itself, subdue our sins by the power of thine own Spirit, and give us charity, and pity, kindness, and tenderness, and love, even to our enemies: so enable us to do good to them that hate us, and overcome evil with good.

Give us all grace to press into the kingdom of heaven, to remember that it suffereth violence, and that the violent take it by force. By the holy violence of mortified lusts, self-sacrifice, withstanding evil, renouncing our own righteousness, resisting the Devil, clinging to our Saviour, and persevering prayer, give us successfully to fight the good fight of faith, and to lay hold on eternal life.

Bless our family and all our family plans. Let them all be such as become a Christian household. Let the friends of the Lord Jesus be our friends. Let us use hospitality without grudging, and especially toward thy children, rejoicing to show love to all those who love Thee.

Pardon the many sins of our country. Deliver us from Popery, lawlessness, and infidelity. Continue to us our Christian constitution, and the religious privileges which we have so long enjoyed. Remember thy mercy and truth toward the house of Israel, and let all the ends of the earth see and rejoice in thy salvation, for our Redeemer's sake.

TUESDAY MORNING.

FOR HEAVENLY-MINDEDNESS, STRENGTH, AND GRACE FOR RELATIVE DUTIES.

O everlasting Lord, the God of heaven, and the God of earth, the Lord God omnipotent, who reignest over all, a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, and of great kindness, we, a company of thy sinful creatures, gathered together in the name of Jesus Christ, worship Thee and kneel before Thee our Maker; for Thou art our God, and we are the sheep of thy pasture.

Great has been thy goodness to us, in calling us to the knowledge of thyself, baptizing us in thy name, and quickening us when dead in sins. Oh raise us up together with all thy faithful saints, and make us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Give us to discern the excellence of the heavenly treasure. May we choose it as our portion. May our hearts be there where Christ our Lord is. May our conversation be in heaven—looking thence for that Saviour who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to his own mighty working. Enable us to honour all men, to love the brotherhood, to fear God, and honour the king. Preserve us from the unbelief of the world. Let thy word be ever to us a sufficient warrant for our hopes.

Let us never take the opinions of men only as our standard, but rest upon the word of him who cannot lie, who will not mock, and who loves us with a true and constant love.

But, O gracious God, how weak is our faith, how dull is our hope, how cold is our love, how languid our zeal. Truly Thou mightest justly cast us far off and leave us to our own devices ; but, oh, forsake us not, though our sins are multiplied and our strength faileth. Perfect that which concerneth us, for thy mercy endureth for ever : forsake not the work of thine own hands. Revive thy work in our souls : lead us into all truth, and make thy truth sanctifying to us ; and, knowing its preciousness ourselves, let us delight to impart it to others.

Preserve us, Lord, from wresting thy holy word to purposes of pride and self-righteousness, or from turning the grace of our God into licentiousness ; but give us to tremble at thy word, and receive it with holy awe.

Oh grant that we may never forget that we must all stand before the judgment-seat of Christ. Let it be our great and chief concern now so to act as to be accepted of him in that day. Knowing this, give us now to believe with the heart unto righteousness, and now with the mouth to make confession unto salvation, and let our love abound more and more, in knowledge and in all judgment. Oh let us dwell in love, and so dwell in Thee our God. Do Thou thyself dwell in us, that thus love may with us be made perfect, and that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as Thou art, so are we in this world.

Give the younger grace to submit to the elder, and the elder to be examples to all. Let all of us be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility. By the power of thine own Spirit, give us to fulfil all relative duties with constant, persevering, and conscientious diligence, whether as parents or children, masters or servants, teachers or learners, friends or dependents, over others or subject to them, rich or poor, young or old. Oh let the doctrine of God our Saviour be adorned by a consistent, steady, daily, and self-denying fulfilment of our duties to one another ;

ever willing to give up our own inclination, will, and pleasure, for the good of others. Let us be lovers of hospitality and of all good men; never living to ourselves, but rejoicing to be both a help and a comfort to all around.

So inspire thy church with holy love, so order thy providence, so pour out thy holy Spirit, that the glorious gospel of Christ may win its mighty way, and fill the earth with the knowledge of thy glory. Have mercy on Jacob, and yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land, and make Jerusalem the joy of the whole earth, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the seed of Abraham after the flesh, and the Son of the Most High God. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

FOR A CONTRITE SPIRIT, AND THE FULNESS OF CHRIST'S SALVATION.

O Lord, grant that none of us may glory in any wisdom, or might, or riches of this world; but glory rather in this, that we understand and know Thee as the ever-living Jehovah, who exercisest loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth, and delightest in them. We would acquaint ourselves more and more with Thee, that we may be at peace; and especially, by the knowledge of Christ our Saviour, cause us to rise to the daily, heartfelt, growing, and delightful knowledge of Thee our Father.

Pour into every heart the spirit of grace and supplication, that, feeling our infinite need of thy mercy, and thirsting after thy loving-kindness, we may, with longing desires for thy presence and blessing, now wait upon Thee. We have all alike, in many things, displeased Thee, our God, by coming short of thy glory. All our services to Thee are full of defect. All our lives are defiled with sin. However before man we may be blameless and harmless, free from the condemnation of human laws and human judgment; before Thee, we are sinful and guilty. We are not only unprofitable servants, but we have been evil and perverse ser-

vants, dishonouring thy name by pride and vanity, by selfishness and worldliness, by levity and indolence, by unbelief and presumption. Oh give us to see more the real extent of our own exceeding sinfulness, that we may be truly humble and contrite before Thee, and never be puffed up with the vain conceit of any good thing in us, but always lie low before Thee, and loathe and abhor ourselves.

Enable us, by the teaching of the same Holy Spirit, to know more the grace of Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour ; to realize more of his unsearchable riches, his inexhaustible fulness, his suitableness and all-sufficiency ; so that we may every one of us see that all who believe are complete in him, and that he is the end of the law for righteousness to our souls, and made of God unto us all that we need for present peace, and holiness, and everlasting blessedness.

Give us the increase of faith in him, the hope of his glory, and the love to him which he manifested to us. O let thine own strength enable us to overcome sin and to do thy will ; to put off anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy conversation out of our mouths ; lying, and all the deeds of the old man ; and to put on the new man, where Christ is all and in all.

We thank Thee, O Lord, for the many mercies of this day. We would see thy love in everything, and then in everything give thanks, knowing that this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning us. Give us to know that if we sow in tears we shall reap in joy ; and let all our enjoyments be heightened by seeing the hand of love bestowing them. O Lord, how good Thou art in all thy ways to us, punishing us infinitely less than we deserve, and blessing us so graciously notwithstanding all our provocations ! What a Saviour is our Saviour ! What a teacher and comforter is thy blessed Spirit ! What a promise is the promise of eternal life ! And all this for sinners, even for us in Jesus Christ !

Oh let the happy tidings of this grace and love be made known throughout the whole world. Let all the Jews, let all the Gentiles know the joyful sound. Break in pieces

the usurped empire of Satan, and let the captives rejoice in their great Deliverer, Jesus Christ. Hear us, for his name's sake.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

PRAISE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS, EVEN AFFLICTIONS.

Almighty and everlasting God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who art light and love, blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. Thou, even Thou alone, art Lord: Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things which are therein, the seas and all which is therein, and Thou preservest them all, and the host of heaven worship Thee. We also, a feeble company of thy sinful creatures, redeemed out of a sinful world, join the glorious company of those who, without ceasing, praise Thee. Every day will we bless Thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever.

Surely none on the face of the earth have greater reason to acknowledge the long-suffering and forbearance, the righteousness and goodness of our God than we have. Living in this highly-favoured Protestant country, with the pure light of reformation-truth, preserved to our day in our beloved church, with the holy Scriptures in rich abundance, the preached gospel, and the abounding means of grace, what thanks we owe Thee for all religious and spiritual privileges and blessings! What thanks shall we render also for innumerable temporal blessings, in daily provision for our wants, health, and comforts, in protection from evil, and all the enjoyments and endearments of the family and social circle. And yet further,—and enable us by faith to discern fully thy love in them—we would bless Thee for our afflictions and sorrows, our losses and disappointments, for sickness and for suffering. If thou hadst not been so wise, so firm, so good, so faithful as to chasten us even as thine own children, we might, with

unmingled ease and worldly prosperity, have been lost for ever. But we bless Thee that Thou hast given us the tokens of chastening love, that we are sons of God. Oh give us ever believingly to feel that whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and that the end which he designs is our profit, that we may be partakers of his holiness, and that thus he would make us vessels prepared and meet for his heavenly kingdom. Magnified and exalted, then, be our God; just and true, good and right, merciful and gracious are all his ways.

O Lord, grant now yet further grace unto us. Let our lives correspond to the greatness of thy mercies; let humble love, and grateful praise, and entire devotedness, fill our whole souls and our whole lives. Wherever we are, whithersoever we go, let the mercies of God give us a quickening, mighty impulse, that we may present our bodies a living sacrifice unto Thee.

Let all of us seek first thy kingdom and thy righteousness. In order to this, make us diligent to obtain time for retirement, for the study of thy word, and for secret prayer, and let us neglect no means of grace which thy providence affords us.

Bless every member of our family, and make us increasingly blessings to one another, to our relatives and friends, to our neighbourhood, to thy church, to our country: yea to Jew and Gentile throughout the world. Make us to remember that the time is short, and therefore, with all fervor and holy simplicity, to endeavour in that short time to bring many souls unto Thee. O Jesus! hasten thy coming, and prepare thy church for thine appearing, and take thine own kingdom and reign for evermore. Amen and Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

AGAINST MERE FORMALITY, AND FOR FAMILY HOLINESS.

Lord, teach us to pray; by thine own Holy Spirit help

our infirmities, and quicken us to call upon thy name. We confess our great want of reverence and earnestness, our mere formality and great unbelief. Remove all the hindrances to spiritual worship, and give us the true and fervent spirit of prayer.

O Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have much to bring before Thee, mercies without number to be thankful for, many sins to confess and bewail, many wants to be supplied, dear friends to be blessed, enemies to be delivered from, and all our duties to Thee, to one another, and to ourselves to be fulfilled. We bring all before Thee. It is thine ordinance that we should pour out our hearts unto Thee, who knowest our frame, and art ever ready to help all that come unto Thee by Jesus Christ.

Glory be to Thee, O God, for all thy unceasing goodness to us, and especially for all spiritual blessings in heavenly things in Christ Jesus. Thou hast set before us, in thy holy word, the blessed hope that we are come in spirit already to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God and the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels : to the general assembly and church of the first-born, which was written in heaven ; and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling. Oh help us to walk worthy of this high calling. Let our conversation be in heaven and not on earth. Set our hearts on things above, and let the forms of godliness lead us, by thy accompanying grace, to the power of godliness.

Preserve us from being carried about with the winds of false doctrine, and enable us to abide in Christ, that we may bear much fruit. Speaking the truth in love, let us grow up into Jesus in all things.

O God Almighty, preserve us from a dead, lifeless profession of sacred things ; from trusting to outward correctness of doctrine, form, or discipline, while the heart is unconverted, self-righteous, and far from real union with Christ. Preserve us from leaning on the traditions of men,

and departing from simple reliance on thine own word. Preserve us from mingling anything with the simplicity of our dependence for salvation on the Lord Jesus. Make thy word our light and lamp, our stay and confidence; give us to lean only on Thee, and to have no confidence in the flesh.

Bless us as a family. Give us all to belong to the household of faith. Oh make us more and more to resemble the perfect family of Christ above, in union and love, and mutual help, and holy joy. Bless those ruling the family in their responsible office. Bless the servants of the family: and let them feel that they are the Lord's freemen, and serving Christ while faithfully serving their earthly master. Bless the children, and all who dwell in our house, with all temporal and spiritual blessings. We commend all around us, friends, and relatives, and neighbours, unto Thee. Preserve Israel. Bring in the Gentiles. Look upon the afflicted. Let those who have been humbled by sickness gain the precious graces of humility and confidence in Thee. Let those who have been tried by weakness of faith gain spiritual strength, and those who are exercised by sorrows and losses, be thereby weaned from the vanities of earth, and enriched with heavenly blessings. Preserve peace on earth, and hasten the reign of the Prince of Peace over the whole world, for his name's sake.

THURSDAY MORNING.

FOR FAITH IN THE WORD, REGARD TO THE SOUL, AND GRIEF FOR SIN IN OTHERS.

O Lord our God, full of compassion and gracious, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy and truth, we will sing of thy mercies for ever, and make known thy faithfulness to all generations. What cause have we to do so, when we look at that better covenant confirmed of God in Christ, well-ordered in all things and sure, which is all our salvation and all our desire! Redeemed with the precious blood

of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, let our faith and hope ever be in Thee. Purify our souls through the Spirit, unto unfeigned love of the brethren: loving them with a pure heart fervently.

Thanks be unto Thee for thy blessed word. Let us never read, nor ever hear it in vain, or to our future condemnation. Grant that we may derive from every portion the instruction, warning and comfort, which it is designed, in thy grace and love, to communicate to our souls. Let thy word never be to us a mere visionary thing; give us to see all its truth and reality, and make it the firm anchor of all our souls' hopes: assured that not one thing can fail of all which the Lord hath spoken.

O Lord, whatever we do, wherever we go, with whatever company we mingle, let it be our chief concern to please Thee; let us attend to that which Thou regardest as the one thing needful for us. Whatever is neglected, Oh let not thy will, thy glory, or the welfare of our never-dying souls be neglected. O let us walk with Thee our God all the day, having constant fellowship with the Father of our spirits.

Holy Ghost the Comforter, whom we have so often grieved; Holy Ghost the Sanctifier, whose temple we are, and which temple we have so much defiled by evil thoughts and words and works; Holy Ghost the Teacher, whom we have provoked and resisted; not in our own name, but in the name of Jesus, we beseech Thee, O Spirit of the living God, come and teach us, come and sanctify us, come and fill us with joy. Oh never leave us, but abide with us for ever, till Thou make us like our Saviour in all meekness and gentleness, purity and devotion, humility and love, and so we become meet for the inheritance of the saints in light.

O Lord, give us deep feeling for the good of all our fellow-creatures. When we witness abominations, give us to sigh over them and testify against them. When men keep not thy law, let tears run down our eyes. Let us never rejoice in iniquity, trifle with sin, or make a mock at

it, but ever rejoice in the truth. Bless our Queen, and the Royal Family ; the administration under her, and all those who are the pillars of Church and State. Give them not only earthly wisdom to guide in earthly matters, but also heavenly wisdom. O let them govern our nation, not according to the maxims of this world, but according to the glorious light of thy word, according to the plain and clear commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, behold thy people Israel, because of their blindness and unbelief, cast out, trodden under foot, far from their promised land, insulted and oppressed among the heathen. Remember thy covenant of old, turn away ungodliness from Jacob, may the whole nation turn to Thee, and do Thou speedily build up Jerusalem. Spare this most sinful world, full of pride and vain-glory, hard speeches against Thee, murmuring and complaining and walking after their own lusts ; let thy long-suffering be the salvation of a countless number, and let thine elect speedily be gathered at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and reign with him in his eternal kingdom. To whom with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Spirit, be all honour and praise for evermore.

THURSDAY EVENING.

CONFESSION OF SINS ; AND PRAYER FOR FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE.

O Lord, Thou art our Shepherd, therefore we shall not want. It is thine own gracious declaration, that they who seek Thee shall want no manner of good thing ; the eyes of all wait upon Thee, and Thou satisfiest the desire of every living creature. Receive us, O our God, in the name of the one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, and for his sake supply all our need out of thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

We come as a family before Thee, confessing our sinfulness in thy sight. However free from human blame

and condemnation our conduct may have been, we dare not attempt to justify ourselves in thy sight. Thou knowest the heart and all its abominations. Thou knowest the secret springs of what may appear fair to man. Before our own conscience, and in thy sight, we are verily guilty, and justly exposed to the righteous condemnation of thy perfect law. God ought to have been in all our thoughts, but he has been greatly forgotten by us. His presence ought to have been fulness of joy; but like Jonah we have sought to flee from that presence, and to fill our souls with worldly vanities which cannot profit. We have not recollected thine ever-gracious eye watching over us, and thy universal presence, in which we live, and move, and have our being, ever surrounding us. We have disregarded thy favour and thy glory, and sought the honour which cometh of man.

O Lord, give us a realizing and truly humbling view of our own sinfulness; bestow upon us that godly sorrow which worketh repentance unto salvation, not to be repented of. Enable us to see the impossibility of standing before Thee in any righteousness of our own, and reveal distinctly to us that in the Lord alone have we righteousness, and strength. We implore of thee the gifts of a loving, purifying, working, conquering faith, and of a hope which maketh not ashamed, full of immortality; a helmet of salvation, and an anchor within the veil; and yet further we earnestly pray that we may know the more excellent way of charity, and receive every one a larger and fuller endowment of that inestimably precious grace of love, which is the very bond of perfectness.

We beseech Thee to make us decided and fixed in thy ways. Oh keep us from that false shame which is so injurious to Thee, to ourselves, and to others. O God, be Thou our glory and our joy. Let us ever speak good of thy name, and never be ashamed to confess our Saviour, and his gospel, and his people, in this sinful and evil world.

Bless all our family plans. Let them all be ordered as

it becometh a Christian household, and let the kingdom of Christ be first in all our thoughts. O Jesus, thou must increase ! Fulfil thine own glorious office, and thine own gracious purposes, as the light of the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel. Accomplish speedily thine own promises of love and goodness to our world, and bring all to know Thee, from the least to the greatest.

FRIDAY MORNING.

CONFESSION OF SIN, AND PRAYER FOR PARDON.

O Lord God Almighty and all-sufficient, whose hand is not shortened that it cannot save, whose ear is not heavy that it cannot hear, with whom is all-sufficient grace ; we mourn those iniquities which separate between us and our God, and those sins which hide thy face from us, so that Thou wilt not hear. Look upon the face of thine anointed, the Lord Jesus, and through Him, enable us to behold Thee near and reconciled to us, and to have access with confidence to the holiest of all by his blood. Give to us the spirit of prayer.

Having this access unto Thee, we would not keep silence, but freely and without reserve acknowledge all our sinfulness. We were born in sin, and that which is born of the flesh is flesh, and in us, that is, in our flesh, dwelleth no good thing. We have lived too much to ourselves and sought our own things, and have not risen as we ought, to our high calling, to do good and to be a blessing. Other lords besides Thee have had dominion over us, even the world, the flesh, and the Devil ; and we have all in innumerable instances offended against that law which is holy, spiritual, and good. And even after we have known thy love in Christ Jesus to our souls, with aggravated guilt, we have not done the good which we would, and we have done the evil which we would not. Our faith has been feeble, our hope dull, and our love cold.

O Lord, let thy Spirit so convince us of sin, and es-

pecially of the sin of not believing in Jesus, that we may not merely discern that we are sinful, and acknowledge our sins together unto Thee: but that we may with the heart feel the burden, the baseness, the vileness, the exceeding sinfulness of sin, and so from the depth of a contrite spirit confess our transgressions unto the Lord, and obtain now the free, full, and complete forgiveness of all our sins, according to the riches of thy grace in Christ Jesus. Enable us by thine own Spirit to believe that, through Jesus, there is forgiveness of sins: enable us to rest upon His atonement, and find His death powerful to mortify sin, and to quicken us to all grateful, holy, and devoted service unto Thee.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, that Thou hast provided such a full propitiation for our sins; that Thou hast established for us the new covenant, containing all promises and graces suited to the sinfulness and wants of our perishing souls, and for our eternal welfare. Oh give us to embrace these privileges most gratefully, receive them with gladness of heart, improve them diligently, and walk worthy of our high calling.

Assist us, by thy Spirit, in all that lies before us this day: on our daily work, on our intercourse with others, on all that we undertake and design, let there be stamped holiness to the Lord. Let thy blessing so prosper all our thoughts and words, all our determinations and works, that all may promote thy glory. We are unable to do any thing of ourselves, but Thou hast all strength for us, and art ready to give to us when we ask: let us not then by our own fault lose that strength, which Thou art so ready to give. Strengthen us with all might, by thy Spirit in the inner man, this day, and enable us in this strength to resist temptation, and fulfil all thy holy will.

Bless every member of our family. May the law of Christ, the law of love, be the law of our house. Bless our parish and our neighbours. Give seasonable and suitable grace to the sick and the dying, the young, the careless, and the wicked, and especial grace to thine own children.

Bless our Queen and all in authority over us. Build up Zion, and send thy light and truth to every land, through Jesus our Redeemer.

FRIDAY EVENING.

FOR ASSURED FAITH IN CHRIST, AND THE REVEALING OF HIS GLORY.

O Lord, the Most High God, the possessor of heaven and earth, without whom not a sparrow can fall to the ground, and by whom the very hairs of our head are numbered, we worship together at thy footstool. Thou knowest all things which we have need of before we ask, and yet Thou callest us to make our requests known unto Thee, in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, and so to be free from all care and full of peace. Receive, then, these our prayers through Jesus Christ.

Our faith is weak: our affections are grovelling and selfish: our souls cleave to the dust. Often we are ready to doubt if it be possible that we can belong to thy people, or be numbered with thy chosen. When in the world, we testify not as we should against it that its deeds are evil; we are too often conformed to this world, rather than transformed by the renewing of our mind. O Lord, make thy work in us clear and manifest to our own souls, by thine abounding grace teaching us to do righteousness and commit no sin. Look Thou upon us as Thou usest to do unto those who love thy name, and give us constantly the gracious unction of thine own Holy Spirit.

And, O merciful Father, enable us by faith to apprehend Christ, of whom we are apprehended. Let us distinctly discern, and truly believe, that Thou hast laid on him the iniquity of us all: that he was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, and the chastisement of our peace was upon him. Give us to build on Christ Jesus alone, that only foundation of all our hopes; and make Him our stay and comfort against all

the terrors of the law, and the accusations of Satan, and the charges of conscience in life and in death. Oh let us who now kneel before Thee, be numbered at the present time and in the day of judgment, with those to whom there is no condemnation, who are in Christ Jesus, and who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit.

O Lord, make us watchful against our many snares and temptations, and ever to take heed lest we fall. Let us be encouraged by thy assurance that no temptation shall come upon us but such as is common to man, and that thy faithfulness is engaged that we shall not be tempted above what we are able to bear, but that Thou wilt make a way for us to escape.

O Lord, give us to delight in that which pleases Thee. Teach us to do thy will, not only in patiently submitting to all thy afflictive dealings with us, but in actively fulfilling all the duties to which Thou hast called us. Thy Spirit is good; lead us into the land of uprightness, and grant us to glow with ardent and supreme love to Thee, and unfeigned love to all men.

When shall it be that the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together! Wonderful, in our day, is thy work in bringing nations nearer to each other, by multiplying facilities and rapidity of intercourse. O Lord, let every discovery in science facilitate the progress of the gospel, and prepare the way of the Lord. Graft in again thine ancient people the Jews, and by them fill the whole face of the world with fruit, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PREPARATION FOR THE SABBATH—INTERCESSION FOR THE CHURCH.

Brought by thy goodness, O our God, to the last day of another week, we worship together at thy mercy-seat in the name of that blessed Lord, thy own Son, who has

loved us and given himself for us. Thou art the same unchangeable and eternal Being, from everlasting to everlasting, God over all, supreme and for ever blessed.

We thank Thee for all thy innumerable mercies to us, thy unprofitable and sinful creatures. We bless Thee that Thou hast refreshed and strengthened us with both inward and outward blessings. We thank Thee that we were born in this peculiarly favored land, that thy house is freely and publicly opened here to us and to all, and that thy holy word is so largely circulated and so fully set before us. O let not all these privileges be in vain: let us not slight nor despise our own mercies, but make them effectual means of grace, so that we may truly profit by them.

Bless us and all who shall worship with us on thy holy day, in the prospect of another Sabbath, and in preparation for it. Let everything this day be ordered by us so that there may be an entire consecration of the Sabbath, uninterruptedly, to thy service. Give us deeper views of thy holiness, and of our privilege as washed in the blood of Jesus and made kings and priests unto Thee. Give us to know more of that love of our Saviour, which passeth knowledge. Assure us that we are received into that blessed body which is the company of all true believers, and enable us to look with full assurance of hope to that heavenly glory which is preparing for us.

O Lord, graciously assist, teach, and strengthen thy ministers, and give them heavenly unction, that they may preach the word, be instant in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine, making full proof of their ministry. Bless every ordinance of thy house to our salvation, the spiritual good of others, and the honour and glory of thy name.

Bless thy whole church, scattered over the world. Bless the bishops, priests, and deacons, and all appointed to minister unto thy people. O Lord, look in great love on Protestant churches in foreign lands; and grant that whatever is defective in us or in them, may be remedied

by thy grace. Pour thy Spirit on all who preach thy gospel throughout the world; whether among Jews or Greeks, Barbarians, Scythians, bond or free; in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and the islands scattered through the wide ocean—be with them, stand by them, and strengthen them. Give to their labours an abundant increase, and let thousands, and tens of thousands, bless Thee for them for ever.

O Lord, send forth more labourers into thy harvest. Look in pity upon the multitudes now wandering as sheep without a shepherd, and grant us faithful men who shall follow Christ in seeking and saving that which is lost. Pour an abundant blessing on those who are preparing for the ministry, and let multitudes go forth as from the schools of the prophets, to gather in thine elect from every land, through Jesus Christ, the chief Shepherd and true Bishop of our souls. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

FOR REST IN CHRIST, AND SPECIAL BLESSINGS ON THE SABBATH.

O Thou Divine Redeemer, who hast said, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, who never hast cast out any that came unto Thee, and who art the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever; wearied with care and toil, temptation and conflict, and burdened with many sins—we come unto Thee for rest. Pardon us, save us, bless us; give to every one of us thy peace and rest, and make us blessings to our fellow-creatures.

Lord, we believe that Thou, according to thy promise, art in the midst of us and hearest us, and wilt graciously answer our prayers. Lord, increase our faith. Give us a deep sense of our own necessities, and of thine abundant fulness. Give us to feel our own frail and dying condition, and that we must soon appear before the judgment-seat

of Christ, and that all who believe in him shall share his heavenly kingdom. We have grievously fallen from our high standing as the sons of God, and are unworthy of the least of thy mercies, much more of the precious gift of eternal life. O Lord, give us lively faith in all thy promises. Let us live in the light of things future and eternal ; and remember that there is a world of spirits around us, a Saviour ever near to us, and thy Spirit ever ready to assist us.

To help us to this heavenly life on earth, bless all the ordinances of thy house to us on the morrow. Oh that it might please Thee to distinguish to-morrow's Sabbath with special grace. Make it, more than any former Sabbath has been, a holy and heavenly day, full of unction from the holy One, full of grace. Give us to know, by happy experience, thy grace and presence in thy house of prayer. Open our eyes to see the wonders of thy law, raise our hearts to things above.

Bless thy ministers abundantly. Enable them to give to every one a portion in due season. Let their words sink into the hearts of all who hear them, and be found to praise, and honour, and glory at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ ; and grant that all, who with us shall hear thy saving word on the morrow, may hereafter meet again in thy heavenly courts above, where we shall see Thee as Thou art, know as we are known, and with one voice unceasingly praise Thee.

Bless all thy people throughout the world ; some in the lonely wilderness, far from all the ordinary means of grace ; some in the isles of the ocean ; some in the various kingdoms which profess thy truth, and others amidst heathen and Mahomedan nations : myriads of congregations in every clime, and of various tongues, yet all uniting in worshipping Thee and in seeking to keep holy thy Sabbath.

Restore Zion and build up her walls, for thy servants take pleasure in her stones. Oh manifest thy glory to the whole world, and let the depth of the riches of thy wisdom

and knowledge be displayed to all men. Accomplish thus all thy glorious promises, and let thy church have full reason to say, Not one good thing hath failed of all that the Lord hath spoken.

O Lord, while we pray for others, bless also our own souls. Quicken us by thy Spirit, and enable us to wrestle with Thee in private prayer, and not to let Thee go until Thou dost bless us. Give us communion in retirement, with the Father of our spirits, that thus our souls may prosper and be in health. Oh let us continually grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sixth Week.

SHORTER PRAYERS.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR SABBATH MERCIES—PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL MIND, AND FOR GOD'S MINISTERS.

O God, who art not only our refuge and strength, and a present help in times of distress, but the only giver of our multiplied blessings, our Sabbath privileges and national mercies ; let us ever acknowledge Thee, seek Thee, and delight in Thee, in times of quietness and peace, as well as in times of trouble. Help us to call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord and honourable, and to honour Thee.

How many are thy mercies to us in a peaceful and holy Sabbath ! We thank Thee that on this day we have such abundance of means for becoming wise unto salvation. We have liberty to go to thy house ; thy ministers have liberty to preach thy word, none making them afraid ; thy assembled people gather together ; thy ordinances are administered among us pure and uncorrupt from superstition ; and thy people unite together in prayer and in praise. All glory be to thy holy name.

Give us on this day a Sabbath-spirit, that like thy holy apostle, St. John, we may be in the Spirit on the Lord's-day. Let all our thoughts be fixed on Thee, and on those

spiritual and heavenly subjects which should fill our souls this day. O Lord, as it is every day our privilege to have our conversation in heaven, let our minds be peculiarly heavenly on this day of rest, which Thou hast appointed as a type and foretaste of that eternal rest which remaineth for the people of God. Oh help our many infirmities; and enable us, in the midst of temptations which have so often beset and hindered us, to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. Let us not lose by indolence of soul the blessings of the day; but stir up ourselves to take hold on God. Let not the services of the day be lost in mere formality; deliver us from the overpowering weight of the flesh, and grant that while we repeat the appointed words of prayer, our souls may rise as on wings to God; that we may mount up with eagle's wings; that we may run and not be weary, that we may walk, and not faint.

Bless thy ministers here and throughout the whole earth in preaching thy word. Let them declare thy truth boldly, powerfully, plainly, and earnestly; and in simplicity and faithfulness, suited to the spiritual necessities of their hearers, that every one may be led, from what they shall hear this day, to resolve to give themselves to the Lord. Oh let great grace be upon all the assemblies of thy people, and a pure offering of prayer and praise from thy whole Church ascend to Thee in every land; and the gospel be fully preached throughout the world; let thy church testify to all nations, that Christ is the Saviour of the world; speedily gather in Thine elect, and complete the whole spiritual body of Christ.

Give unto us the seeing eye, the hearing ear, and the understanding and believing heart, that we may see, believe, turn unto Thee, and be everlastingly saved, through Jesus our Redeemer.

O Lord, let this Sabbath be one of great instruction, full of enlightening, quickening, and sanctifying grace to us and all thy saints, and let it be blessed for the enlargement as well as comfort of the Church of Christ, that the Redeemer may see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

FOR A KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, for the many privileges and blessings which Thou hast given unto us on this thy holy day.

Forgive all our past neglect of Thine ordinances, and especially of thy precious word. Open our hearts as Thou didst the heart of Lydia, to attend to the things spoken. Open our ears to hear the voice of the Saviour. Open our eyes to behold wondrous things out of thy law.

We thank Thee, that, weak and helpless as we are, there is such a treasure for us, of promise, of instruction, and of guidance; by which we may be made perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. Make every part of thy word precious and sanctifying to us in all its holiness, fulness, and variety. Let the word of prophecy be taken heed to by us, as a light shining in this dark world. Let the glorious gospel of thy grace shine in our hearts. Give us to attend not only to the words spoken by the prophets, but also to the commandment of the apostles of Christ. Let our memories retain thy word. Cause our hearts to delight in it, and our understandings to be filled with it, that we may daily grow up in all things into him which is the head, even Christ.

O Lord, grant that all things belonging to the flesh may die in us, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in us. Every Sabbath help us in attaining more and more of Thine image and likeness, and more preparedness for the everlasting Sabbath yet to come.

Bless this parish and neighbourhood. Let no means of instruction be unimproved, no Bible be unblessed, and no sermon preached without prospering to the salvation of those who hear.

Bless especially thy church in these days. We thank Thee that Thou art giving tokens, that the time to favour Zion is come. Blessed be Thou for every pledge of the

truth of thy glorious promises, and for each earnest of thy near approach. Make bare thy mighty arm in the sight of all nations, that all flesh may see thy salvation; and everywhere bring thy church into a prepared and waiting state for the coming of our Lord and Saviour.

Forgive all the iniquities of our holy things, through that great High Priest who is now in thy presence making intercession for us; and by him give us all that we have asked from Thee, to the glory of thy great name. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

GOD'S MERCIES AND OUR UNWORTHINESS—TO PROFIT BY THE WORD.

O Thou that hearest prayer, and hast promised that unto Thee all flesh shall come, purge our iniquities away by the blood of the great sacrifice which Christ made for us, and enable us to enjoy the blessedness of those whom Thou causest to approach unto Thee.

Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to sing and rejoice. Thou visitest the earth and waterest it: Thou preparest the corn: Thou crownest the year with thy goodness, and thy paths drop fatness. Thou redeemest our life from destruction, and Thou hast given us eternal life in Christ Jesus. All glory and praise, now and for ever, be unto the Father of our mercies and the God of all our comfort.

Receive, O Lord, this our tribute of praise and thanksgiving. We are unworthy of the least of thy mercies. We confess with one accord our sinfulness, the humbling alienation of our minds from Thee, our great dulness in spiritual things, and our eagerness in earthly things; our unbelief, our impenitence, and our slothfulness in the Divine life. O Lord, forgive us all our sins; we plead only the propitiation made for them by the Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord Jesus, send thy Spirit unto us from the Father to renew our souls.

Quicken us for thy name's sake : draw us, and we will run after Thee. Help us to set our affections on things above, and not on things on the earth. Give us precious faith and true repentance. Stir us up to all diligence to make our calling and election sure, and quicken us to continual acts of mutual help and love towards another. Oh let us not only know, but do thy will ; not only hear the command to pray always and not faint, but ever give ourselves unto prayer, and know what it is to walk with Thee in happy fellowship.

By thy Spirit bring to our recollection the truths which we yesterday heard ; and enable us to bring into this day's conduct the holy lessons of the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us faith that we may profit by what we have heard. We ask for the same mercies for all his disciples and his professing people throughout the world.

Let the healing beams of the Sun of Righteousness rise on all Jews and Gentiles, and shine till at length our Lord Christ returns in his full glory and all the ends of the world remember and turn unto the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations worship before Thee.

Bless especially our own land, our own monarch, our own church ; and make us blessings to others, through Jesus our Redeemer.

MONDAY EVENING.

TO RECEIVE OUT OF THE FULNESS OF CHRIST.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the King of glory, the Saviour of sinners, the refuge of our souls ; Thou who livest and wast dead, and art alive for evermore, having the keys of death and hell ; help us to trust in Thee. Receive us, wearied and burdened with sin, and give us thy salvation ; for we come to Thee, and desire to take thy yoke upon us and learn of Thee.

We believe that Thou, who hast once died for us on the

accursed tree, will come to be our judge; we therefore pray Thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood. Open our eyes, and turn us from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that we may receive forgiveness of all our sins, and inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith, which is in Thee.

O exalted Prince and Saviour, give us Thine own Spirit, that we may follow Thee in thy sufferings and humiliation, in thy patient labour and self-denial, in thy meekness and gentleness, and may daily take up the cross for thy sake; looking finally to be with Thee, and to behold thy face in righteousness, and to be satisfied in awaking in thy likeness. Be Thou our light and our glory, now and evermore.

Almighty Father, we rejoice that it has pleased Thee that all fulness should dwell in the Son of thy love, and that by his death we should be reconciled to Thee; present us at last faultless before the presence of thy glory with exceeding joy. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable goodness to us.

Still continue to do us good and to bless us. Especially give unto us Thine own holy Spirit, in all his gracious offices; to convince us of sin, in our unbelief of Christ; to convince us of his righteousness, in his finished and complete salvation, and going to the Father for us; and to convince us of judgment, in the condemnation of Satan and our victory over him. Strong in thy strength, make us watchful, and enable us to stand fast in the faith, and to quit ourselves like men; let all things be done with charity.

Look in mercy upon a sinful world. O Thou, who wouldest have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth, hear our prayers for all men. Bless the Queen, and all in authority over us, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Let thy people everywhere shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life; and continually add Thou to

thy Church multitudes who shall be everlastingly saved, through Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR GOSPEL BLESSINGS, AND PRAYER TO FULFIL DAILY DUTIES.

Almighty Father, in the name of Jesus Christ our one and only Mediator, the way, the truth, and the life, we now come unto Thee. Give us access through him by one Spirit, with freedom and confidence of heart. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we exalt together thy grace to us, in setting forth such an all-sufficient propitiation, to declare thy righteousness for the remission of sins, through thy forbearance towards us. O grant unto us all faith in his blood for the remission of all our past sins, and by that blood purge our consciences from dead works to serve Thee the living God. We thank Thee for that new covenant made through him, and established on such precious promises,—that Thou wilt put thy laws into our minds and write them in our hearts, and that Thou wilt be unto us a God, and we shall be unto Thee a people, and Thou wilt remember our sins and our iniquities no more.

God of all grace, be it unto us according to thy gracious word ; give us all, without one exception, to take hold of thy covenant—to receive its blessings gratefully and gladly—and improve them diligently—and to walk worthy of our high calling, in all holy tempers and Christian graces.

Assist us by thy Spirit to fulfil the duties of our stations faithfully this day ; whether directing or obeying, teaching or learning, ruling or serving, make our aim simple in seeking to please Thee ; make our hearts single in loving Thee chiefly and with our whole soul ; loving others without dissimulation, as Thou hast commanded. Preserve us from dishonouring thy name, and from falling away from thy truth. Make us all watchful, laborious and diligent

servants of that Heavenly Master who has given to us our several talents and appointed our stations; knowing the account to be rendered to him at his coming, and seeking above all things to be approved of Thee in that day.

Bless those who are over us in the Lord, and admonish us: let us ever esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Give us grace to be thoughtful for others; to bear their burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ; to support the weak, to be patient toward all, not rendering evil for evil to any, but contrariwise blessing, and ever following that which is good.

Bless our country. We thank Thee for all the social comforts, domestic blessings, and national mercies which abound in our land, and for thy holy church which thou hast established in our borders. Let the families of our nation become the families of the true Israel. Let the literal Israel be led to look on that Saviour whom they have pierced, and be grafted in again to their own olive. Bring thousands and tens of thousands throughout all Christendom out of the darkness of popery, infidelity and worldliness, and make them ready as a people prepared for the Lord. Hear us in behalf of all nations: and hasten the reign of Christ in every land, for his name's sake.

TUESDAY EVENING.

FOR GRACE TO DO GOD'S WILL, AND FOR FAMILY UNION IN CHRIST.

Everlasting Lord God, the mighty God, the Holy One, who art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look upon iniquity, we confess together this evening that we have sinned against Thee, that we are exposed to thy curse, and under the condemnation of thy holy law: but Christ Jesus, thy Son, our Lord, has died for us; Christ Jesus has lain in the grave for us; he has risen again for our justification, and he is now in heaven in our nature to make intercession for us.

O Lord, give us confidence of pardon, and peace of conscience, through the atonement of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be enabled to serve Thee with a free and joyful heart. And so largely pour thy grace upon us, that we may, like our divine Master, who is our great example, live wholly to Thee, take up our daily cross, delight in thy will, find it as our meat to do that will, and ever be willing to sacrifice ourselves to the good of others. Give us to know that thus we shall best promote thy glory and our own happiness, as well as the best and everlasting good of others.

Give us grace to live more according to our knowledge and avowed principles, as the disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know these things, but alas we come far short of them ; let us take up our cross, and deny ourselves, and follow our Lord, till we rise to the happiness which our Saviour has set before us, when he said, If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Bless us as a family : let us live in increasing love to one another. Let not one be undecided or unconverted. Give us a far higher union than flesh and blood or mutual temporal advantages can bestow. Give us to be one in Christ ; not only for time but for eternity, and make us all partakers of his saving benefits. Bless every one of our respective families ; grant them all that is needful and good for their bodies and souls, and guard them from all dangers. Bless our Queen and rulers, our church and country. Bless all the nations of the earth. Send thy Spirit upon them, and turn them, oh, turn them from idolatry, Mahomedanism, Popery, infidelity, lawlessness, mere nominal Christianity, and every evil way, to love serve, and obey Thee. Gather thine elect speedily from all lands, restore thy people Israel to their own land, and fulfil all thy promises, in the coming and glorious kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. To whom, with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

THAT WE MAY PARTAKE OF THE RICHES OF CHRIST.

O Lord our God, to Thee belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Thee. Grant that we may more and more taste that the Lord is gracious, and that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. Let our whole life be a constant coming to Jesus as unto the living stone. O give us to carry on a blessed and ever-enriching traffic and commerce in the inexhaustible riches of Christ; parting with and losing our poverty in his wealth, our sin in his righteousness, our ignorance in his knowledge, our folly in his wisdom, and our weakness in his strength. Oh let there be a blessed interchange between Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, and our needy and sinful souls; that as he was made sin for us, so we may be made the righteousness of God in him; as he was a man of sorrow, for us, we may be filled with joy and peace in believing through him. O our God, continually thus supply all our wants out of his fulness; and enable us to receive grace from Jesus to purify our souls and make us his peculiar people, filled with ardent and intense love to our Saviour, and zealous of good works.

O Lord, we are most sinful and most weak in ourselves! What is our life, when we look at our own doings, but a humbling course of broken resolutions and unfulfilled purposes of serving Thee; one wreck of unaccomplished aims and desires to do thy will. In everything we have come short of thy glory; everything which we say and do, seen in the light of the Sun of Righteousness, and compared with thy holy and perfect and good law, and thy spotless purity, is full of defect and sin. Yet open our eyes to see, and give us to know and believe, and to be assured, that there is in Christ free pardon for all our offences, and perfect righteousness for our justification. While we acknowledge the evil of our own thoughts—for Thou God

weighest the spirits—O lead us in thy good ways, and teach us to rejoice in Thee, making us wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil, and full of labours of love for the good of others.

Lift up thy countenance, and shine upon us, and grant that we may live in the light of thy love. Let us not be deceived by the gaudy show of this vain world, and seek rest in its empty appearance of good ; but let us have real good in choosing that which pleases Thee. Let Christ be formed in us the hope of glory. Let us be looking for him who will appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Let us dwell in him while he dwells in us, and let us seek to diffuse continually the knowledge of his grace to others.

Unto Thee who hast loved us, and washed us from our sins in thine own blood, and hast made us to be kings and priests unto God even the Father, be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

TO KNOW GOD, AND BE DELIVERED FROM SIN.

O gracious Lord, who hast promised to be the God of all the families of Israel, and that they shall be thy people, and all whose promises are sure to us in Christ Jesus, help us to believe thine own word. Give us to know at this time the real privilege of having Thee for the God of our family, and the unspeakable benefits of uniting in prayer at thy mercy-seat. O teach us to cast all our care on Thee, in the assurance that Thou carest for us. Teach us to be careful for nothing, but in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, to let our requests be made known unto Thee.

O Lord, reveal thyself unto us more and more in the face of Jesus Christ. Make us to see and know thy beauty and thy glory ; how infinitely full Thou art of wisdom and power, riches and goodness, love and compassion,

righteousness and forgiveness. Give us to discern with what assurance sinful creatures, who are lost and undone in themselves, may yet return unto Thee, the most Holy One; as to a tender and merciful Father, who dost invite us, though so far alienated from Thee by our sins, to be reconciled unto Thee by Jesus Christ.

Behold, O Lord, we come unto Thee; Thou hast made us; Thou hast redeemed us; we believe thy love, and we know that Thou wilt receive us and bless us when we return to Thee.

And, O Lord, deliver us from the power, bondage, and pollution, as well as from the guilt of sin. Thou hast not spared thine own Son, his blood was shed for us. Thou hast sent us thy glorious gospel. Thou hast spared and blessed us all our life long to this day. Wilt thou not then do for us yet more, what we infinitely need, when we ask it in the name of thy dear Son! O Lord, take away our evil heart of unbelief, give us victory over temptation; rescue us from the bondage of our iniquities; break the chains of our habitual sins, and give unto us the holy, happy and joyful liberty of those whom the Son makes free. Give us grace for that, from which our corruption especially shrinks, the patient, silent, laborious, unwearied, fulfilling, daily, of self-denying duties, living soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, in full hope of the salvation ready to be revealed in these last times.

We pray for our church and all its ministers, especially our own. We pray for all the churches of Christ, and that the receiving of thy ancient people may speedily be as life from the dead to the world. We pray for the prosperity of Britain. God be merciful to us and bless us, and at length give us grace to use our riches and commerce and dominion for thy glory, and the diffusion of that truth with which we have so long been entrusted and blessed. Hear us for Christ's sake.

THURSDAY MORNING.

FOR SELF-DEDICATION AND THE SPIRIT OF LOVE.

O Lord our God, who hast set apart thy people for thyself, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable unto Thee, by Jesus Christ; enable us now to fulfil that high office and privilege to which Thou hast called us, and to present our bodies a living sacrifice unto Thee. O what cause hast Thou given us ever to show forth thy praises, in having called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light! Thy mercies are new every morning; notwithstanding all our great sinfulness, we are still spared and preserved together as a family, and blessed with great and innumerable blessings: from Thee cometh all the enjoyment of present good; from Thee, the enlivening prospect of better things to come: all we have, all we hope for, is from Thee. Yea, Lord, our very necessities show the fulness of thy mercy: our weariness gives us the sweetness of rest; our hunger the refreshment of food, our cold the comfort of warmth, and our very sinfulness shows the riches of thy redeeming grace in Christ Jesus. We will praise Thee so long as we have our being, even through the countless ages of eternity.

O Lord, all whose ways are wise and good, and who never hast failed those who seek Thee, enable us to endure temptation, that when we are tried we may receive the crown of life. Give us to live always to thy glory, to bear much fruit, to spend every hour of this day not to ourselves, but unto Thee. Especially assist us ever to look to Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, our guide, strength and pattern. Give us to live with him, to him, and by him, and let his lovely and glorious character be more and more impressed on our hearts, and words, and lives. Oh help us all to fulfil our own appointed duties in the world, patiently, laboriously, and diligently. Deliver us from selfishness, malice, and hatred. Let us forget injuries, but never forget kindness; and let no unkindness efface

the grateful recollection of former love. Let it ever be our aim to overcome evil with good, and to look at all the conduct of others in the spirit of faithful, patient, forbearing, and persevering love.

We thank Thee, from the heart, for the family love which Thou hast given to us ; it is by Thee that we dwell together in unity. Oh increase more and more our love to Thee, and to one another in Thee, and let it overflow to all our relatives, and friends and neighbours, our church and our country. Bless the whole of Christendom : reform corrupt churches, and revive fallen churches ; and enlarge the spiritual blessedness of thy people on every side. Let the glory of the Lord rise upon Jerusalem, and the Gentiles come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising, for our Redeemer's sake.

THURSDAY EVENING.

THAT WE MAY ATTAIN HEAVENLY GLORY.

Almighty and Eternal Lord, who bearest this glorious and fearful name—the Lord our God—and who hast told us that Thou wilt once more shake not the earth only, but also heaven ; enable us to receive now that kingdom from above, which cannot be moved, and to serve Thee acceptably with reverence and godly fear ; knowing that our God is a consuming fire.

O Lord, according to Thine own gracious covenant, write thy laws in our hearts and be our God. May we know that Thine eye is ever upon us, an eye of tender pity, but yet of searching purity. Do Thou then, by Thine own Spirit, purify our hearts, and drive far away all that would defile thy temple.

We thank Thee that the full light of the glorious gospel of Christ, and of the whole revealed word of God, which many prophets and kings have desired to see and did not see, shines so clearly upon us. We bless Thee also that Thou hast better things still in store, in the salvation

ready to be revealed in the last times for thy people, and that their utmost wishes and prayers shall be accomplished in the kingdom of glory. Oh let none of us come short of that rest, through unbelief, but to-day, while it is called day, let us hear thy voice and live.

We bless Thee, O Lord, for all Thine unnumbered mercies to this household in times past. Order all our future course according to thy deep wisdom, full love, and tender compassion, and according to that all-seeing and all-discerning grace with which Thou dost direct the way of every one of thy children for thy glory and their highest good.

While we remain together here, let us be more and more closely united together in the bonds of holy and heavenly love, more helpful to one another in the ways of God, and finally all, without one exception, meet together around thy throne of glory, where all sin and imperfection shall be for ever left behind.

The blessings which we ask for ourselves we ask for our relatives, friends and neighbours. Grace be with all them who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Bless our minister; let thy grace and strength be abundantly imparted to him; and enable us to fulfil those solemn duties which Thou hast laid upon those taught in the word. Let us honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear Thee and honour the Queen and all in authority under her. God Almighty bless and guide, guard and prosper the church and all its pastors, and establish speedily Thine own kingdom over all the earth, for Jesus Christ's sake.

FRIDAY MORNING.

FOR THE LIGHT OF CHRIST, AND DELIVERANCE FROM SIN.

O Thou blessed Lord Jesus Christ, who art the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world, the fountain of peace and joy, light and love, on whose countenance the hosts above around the throne are now

gazing with inexpressible delight, we come unto Thee. Thou art now seated with thy Father on his throne, waiting till Thine enemies be made thy footstool; help us to adore Thee, to trust in Thee, to follow Thee, and to confess Thee now in the midst of a world despising and rejecting thy great salvation.

O Lord Jesus, fulfil to us thy gracious promise, that Thou wilt be as the light of the morning when the sun ariseth, even a morning without clouds: shine upon us; dispel the mists of ignorance and the slumber of sin: awaken us to reflect thy radiant image, enjoy thy glorious works, and raise our songs of praise unto Thee. Oh give us the light of knowledge, purity, and joy: and evermore shine Thou into our hearts.

O Lord Jesus, abide in us, and give us grace to abide in Thee, that we may bear much fruit; and purge us, that we may bring forth more fruit. Oh deliver us from all sin and unbelief; from all unholy tempers and evil passions; from pride and from covetousness; from self-will, and self-wisdom, and self-righteousness; from vanity and high-mindedness. Let thy glorious gospel and thy all-sufficient spirit be mighty to the pulling down the strongholds of sin and Satan in our hearts; casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. Build us up in Christ, as lively stones, for a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices of prayer and of praise, of love and of obedience, acceptable unto God by Thee.

Sanctify all trials, pains, distress, weakness, and affliction, to our highest good, and enable us to honour Thee in all things, and grant that all may help us in preparation for thy heavenly kingdom.

Bless the parish and place in which we dwell. Let thy grace be largely manifested here, the ministry of thy word fully blessed here; may thy presence be known and felt among thy people, may thy love and tenderness move them, and the hope and expectation of thy glory be con-

tinually present to their minds. Bless thy whole church. Great Shepherd of the sheep, watch over thy flock, wherever scattered in this evil world ; bring Jews and Gentiles into thy fold, and let there be one fold and one shepherd. To Thee, O Jesus, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore.

FRIDAY EVENING.

DELIVERANCE FROM ALL DANGERS SOUGHT.

O Lord our God, whose ear is ever open to the prayers of thy people, returning unto Thee by Jesus Christ, however weak, foolish and sinful they may have been, give us grace now to approach with unfeigned hearts unto Thee. Thou knowest all the sins which we have committed ; all the temptations to which we are exposed ; the weakness and waywardness of our hearts, and the many snares cast in our way by our great enemy Satan. Succour us and deliver us, we beseech Thee. Thou knowest how the enemy oppresses our souls, strives to dim our view of Jesus our mighty Deliverer, to fill us with despondency, and to turn away our minds from the coming glory of thy kingdom, and keep us wholly engrossed with this vain world. Mighty indeed are the obstacles in our way, yet we know that Thou hearest, we know that Thou answerest prayer ; give unto us then much of the spirit of prayer : let us never think that Satan is unconquerable, but know that he is subdued and vanquished, and that if we resist him he will flee from us. Enable us then ever to resist the Devil, and bruise Thou him under our feet very shortly. Thou knowest how great our outward mercies and how many our spiritual blessings have been, and how little we have improved them. We have reason to confess before Thee our want of faith, and earnestness, and zeal : our coldness, and spiritual deadness, and indifference, and emptiness. Oh blot out all our sins, and give to us thy quickening Spirit, and create in us a clean

heart, and renew a right spirit within us, and by thy omnipotent strength, give us victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil.

O Lord, give us to know the depth of thy love to us: teach us thy heavenly truth and the exhaustless fulness of its treasures: make us thus wise unto salvation, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and enrich our souls for eternity. Help us to rejoice in the Lord always, and let this joy be our strength in our conflict with our many spiritual foes. Especially give us victory over the love of the world, and the covetous desires of its pleasures, riches, and honours. Let not love of ease and quiet, let not self-indulgence and home comforts keep us from duty. Let us not mind high things, but condescend to men of low estate, visiting the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world.

O Lord, bless our church and our country; spare us, though we deserve thy judgments; give us repentance. Let those who rule set Christ always before them; those who minister in holy things be endued with power from on high, and thy church be protected, instructed, and enlarged continually. Hear us, according to the fulness of thy grace in Jesus Christ.

SATURDAY MORNING.

FOR REPENTANCE, FAITH, AND HOLINESS.

Eternal and all-glorious Lord, infinite in wisdom, almighty in power, spotless in holiness, and boundless in love, we praise and magnify Thee that Thou hast revealed thyself to us sinners, in the costly sacrifice of the precious blood of Christ, as our reconciled Father, and all thy perfections as our portion and joy for ever. Sinful and guilty as we are, we can and we do now bless the holy name of our God, who forgiveth all our iniquities and healeth all our diseases, redeems our life from destruction, and crowns us with loving-kindness and tender-mercies.

We bless Thee for the assurance that with thy only Son Thou dost also freely give us all things. We ask then for a genuine and deep repentance for sin, that we may ever view our sins with godly sorrow and unfeigned abhorrence. We ask of Thee a full and entire trust in the Lord Jesus Christ: give us a simple confidence in his atoning blood, and a constant regard to his sacrifice for our sins, that by the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus our conscience may be pacified. Oh let us know, every one of us, in our happy and daily experience, what it is to be elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, unto sanctification and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. Let this blood not only deliver our consciences from the load of guilt, and our souls from the curse of the law, but also from the power of corruption, and inwardly cleanse and purify onr hearts from the love and pollution of sin. Like Noah, let us find grace in thy sight, and be just and upright in our generation, and walk with Thee. Carry on thy work daily in us, till at length, perfectly free from all sin, we join the blessed company above, who have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Give us now grace and strength cheerfully and gladly to fulfil our duties this day. Bless our intercourse with one another, and with all our fellow-men. Grace and peace be multiplied to the saints and faithful brethren everywhere. Heal the divisions of thy people, and make them of one mind and of one heart. Bless our Queen and all in authority. Relieve the distressed. Enlarge that blessed kingdom which is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, and give everywhere thy Holy Spirit to thy ministers; filling them with heavenly wisdom to instruct and profit thy people on the morrow, in all the churches of Christ throughout the world. Hear us, for his name's sake.

SATURDAY EVENING.

FOR FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE, AND HEAVENLY WISDOM.

We praise Thee, O God, for the mercy which preserves us from day to day and from week to week, and which has brought us in peace to the close of this week. Prepare us now to come before Thee in prayer. Give us a lively faith in thy goodness, love and all-sufficiency, and a spirit of fervent and enlarged desire for thy grace: according to Thine own most gracious promise, Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.

O Lord, like thy holy apostles of old, we would earnestly call upon Thee as they did,—Lord! increase our faith; now our faith is weak and feeble, but grant that we may grow strong in faith, and give glory to Thee, and thus attain inward purity and victory over the world.

Nor let our hope grow dim, but as time rolls on, let our expectation of thy glory become more lively; may we look with patient and earnest desire for thy coming, and long for the happy period when the kingdom and dominion and greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Grant that our love also may grow warmer, and abound more and more in all judgment and knowledge. Let us think of all that Thou hast done for us, and meditate on the infinite fulness of thy eternal compassion. O make us merciful as Thou art merciful; and let us dwell in love and in the constant exercise of all its forbearing, patient, self-sacrificing, kind, and laborious efforts for the good of others.

Give us also heavenly wisdom to direct us in thy way. When we would serve Thee, we know not how to do so, nor what to do, through our spiritual blindness, till Thou impart to us the heavenly gift. Make us then wise unto salvation, wise to serve Thee ourselves, and wise to bring

salvation to others, and to win their souls to Christ. Oh let every one of us have a share in that precious promise:—'They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.' With these spiritual blessings, give unto us all needful temporal good. Protect us, and send us quiet and refreshing rest this night. Guard us from all evil, and especially from the love of sin; and let us rise in the morning, refreshed and strengthened, both in body and spirit, for all the services of thy holy day. O may the approaching Sabbath be distinguished by large communications of thy grace to thy ministers and people; by the conversion of many, many precious souls, and by the refreshing and strengthening and revival of thy churches in all lands, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Seventh Week.

COTTAGER'S FAMILY PRAYERS.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.

O Lord Jesus, this is Thine own day : we will rejoice and be glad in it. We bless Thee for this day of rest after the labour of the week. We bless Thee for thy house of prayer, where the gospel is preached to the poor. We bless Thee for thy holy word, which gives understanding to the simple, and for all the other mercies of a happy Christian Sabbath. What thanks do we owe Thee, O Lord of the Sabbath, who on this day rose from the dead, for all the love which Thou dost show to sinners, in blotting out our sins, and preparing us by Sabbaths on earth for an endless Sabbath in heaven.

But, O God, we are weak and helpless ; if Thou do not give us thy grace, we shall not profit by this holy day. Be with us through all its hours. Keep us not only from our daily work, but from idle words and foolish thoughts. When we go to thy house, let not our prayers be mere lifeless words, but the very wishes of our hearts. Let our souls be full of joy and love, when we sing thy praise ; and, when thy minister declares thy truth, open our minds to understand it, and our hearts to receive it.

Bless our children : let us diligently use this day to

teach them in thy ways, and bless those kind friends who at their schools help us herein. Bless all thy ministers, especially our own minister, and be with thy people who in all parts of the world shall this day worship Thee our own God, for our blessed Saviour's sake.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

TO REMEMBER THE LESSONS OF THE SABBATH.

O Lord God, at the close of thy holy day we come once more as a family before Thee, to bless Thee for its many mercies, and to beseech Thee to forgive all our sins. We confess that we have too much spoken our own words, and sought our own pleasure this day; we have not, as we ought, worshipped Thee in the beauty of holiness: our thoughts wandered to other things, and our hearts were cold. O God, forgive us for the sake of Jesus; and grant that every time we look at our sins, it may make us love this precious Saviour more—so love him, as to try in all things to do his will. Now write upon our hearts what we have heard, that we may have it to think on through all the labours of the week. Let our hearts be like the good ground, that the word which we have heard may bring forth much fruit. Bless all who worshipped with us in thy house: as we called them our brethren there, let us show them a brother's spirit throughout the week, and lay aside anger, malice, and evil-speaking; learning to love our neighbour as ourselves. As we have prayed this day to be delivered from temptation, make us careful not to run into it in the week. Do Thou strengthen and help us, for of ourselves we can do nothing. Bless the heathen who know not the Sabbath, and hasten the happy day, when Jesus will come again, and reign over all, King of kings, and all the world shall rejoice in his love, for his name's sake. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

TO GO THROUGH THE WEEK'S WORK IN A SABBATH SPIRIT.

O God, our heavenly Father, before we begin the labours of another week, we rejoice to ask thy blessing upon them; for the blessing of the Lord it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow therewith. Let us now bring into practice the lessons which we yesterday learnt, and live through the week in a Sabbath spirit.

Let not the cares of this world drive the truths which we heard out of our minds: let us not be troubled and careful about many things, but, like Mary, choose the one thing needful. Give us to know so much of thy love, that we may be able to leave all the rest with Thee; knowing that God who gave his own dear Son to die for us, will not let us want for anything else which is good for us. Let us therefore go with a joyful heart about our daily work, only watching and praying to be kept from sin, which would grieve our gracious Saviour.

And now, praising Thee for all thy mercy, asking thy blessing on all whom we love, we commend ourselves to thy care and keeping, in the name of our gracious Lord and Saviour. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

PRAISE FOR GOD'S MERCY TO US SINNERS.

O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come; unto Thee do we come, for Thou hast heard our prayer. We sought thy blessing this morning, and truly we can say that through the day goodness and mercy have followed us. We have been preserved from all dangers: we have had food to eat and clothes to cover us, while many have been starving in hunger and nakedness: we have a home to shelter us, rest to refresh us after the labours of the day; and besides all this, Thou hast given

us the richer mercies of thy salvation. Jesus is our Saviour, and heavenly glory is set before us.

But, O Lord, though Thou art so gracious, we confess that we have not loved Thee as we ought. We have forgotten thy goodness, and have been rebellious, disobedient children toward Thee our heavenly Father, and greatly do we need every night the precious blood of Jesus to wash away the sins of the day : Oh blot them all out, and hide thy face from them.

Bless all our relations and friends ; let not one whom we love be walking in the ways of eternal death, and above all, O God, grant that our dear children may truly be made thy children. Give us grace to bring them up for Thee. Watch over us this night for our Saviour's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

STRENGTH FOR THE DAY'S DUTIES.

Almighty God, surrounded with all the mercies of another morning, we would offer our hearty thanks unto Thee for all thy goodness ; for the quiet sleep of the night, for health and strength, for the work of the day, for the light of the sun, for the food which we eat, and, above all, for spiritual mercies, all praise be unto Thee.

And now, O Lord, another day is before us : give us grace to fulfil its duties, for without Thee we can do nothing. We shall have many temptations to sin, strengthen us to resist them. When Satan would tempt us to any evil thing, help us, like our Saviour, to say, Get thee behind me, Satan, and suffer us not to parley one moment with him. Give us to know sin as that hateful thing which crucified Jesus, and so may we be always on the watch against it.

Let us not only be Christians in name, content with saying our prayers, but Christians in deed and truth all the day long, following always in the steps of Jesus. Take

away our sins, watch over us, and bless us, for his name's sake. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

LOOKING TO JESUS TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS, AND FOR HIS COMING.

O Lord God, wearied with the labours of another day, we would once again, before we go to rest, seek a blessing from Thee, our heavenly Father. We know, O Lord, that every thought, word, and work of this day has been open to thy piercing eye. O how much sin hast Thou seen in every one of us! how much pride, idleness, selfishness, self-will, forgetfulness of God! how many things have we done which we ought not to have done, and how many have we left undone which we ought to have done. Let the precious blood of Jesus wash away all our sins: we have no hope but in him. How can we thank Thee enough for this precious Saviour! He has delivered us from the flames of hell; he bore the dreadful curse instead of us: blessing and honour and glory and power be for ever to Jesus!

O hasten the happy time when Jesus shall come again to our world, when sorrow and sighing shall flee away; and the earth be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Help us now to prepare for that day, that it may not overtake us as a thief, and be a time of terror to us; but let us serve Jesus now in humility, that we may reign with his saints for ever. And now, Lord, take us under thy protection this night, and give us quiet sleep, for our Redeemer's sake.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TO DO ALL WITH A HEAVENLY MIND.

O God, Thou hast said, Ask, and ye shall have, seek,

and ye shall find. It is thine own promise, fulfil it to us; let us not come to Thee in prayer, even for a few minutes, without gaining a blessing.

Thou knowest how much our time must be occupied in providing for every day's wants, and what danger we are in of forgetting our precious souls: preserve us from this, O God: while our hands are busy at work, let our hearts be often lifted up to Thee; may we remember thy command, "Pray without ceasing."

Be with us, and give us thy blessing, that whatsoever we do may prosper. Let us remember that the commonest work done in a spirit of love to Jesus, is acceptable spiritual service unto God. Let us love our Bibles; let no day pass without our reading them, and let us never read without getting good to our souls. And we pray for these blessings also on all whom we love. Bless our friends and benefactors: reward them for all their kindness to us. How great is thy love to us, that a poor man's prayers, amidst all our own necessities, may call down a blessing from God! Bless our whole parish, our minister, the schools, the rich, the poor, every one dwelling here. Make this a parish serving God and rejoicing in his goodness! and let us not only pray for this, but do what we can to advance true religion among our neighbours, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

PRAISE—PRAYER FOR CONTENTMENT, AND FOR A BLESSING ON HEATHEN NATIONS.

O God, the God of mercy, our heavenly Father, what shall we render unto thee for all thy goodness! Surely the least which we can do is to praise thy blessed name. What love Thou dost show us! When Thou, O Jesus, wast upon earth, Thou hadst not where to lay thy head: we have a home to shelter us. Thou wast basely betrayed by thy own disciples: we have all the happiness of loving

one another, and dwelling as a happy family together. We do not deserve all these thy mercies, but let us delight to view them as the gifts of our Father's love, and the purchase of Christ's blood, by which alone we have any mercy.

O God, make us truly thankful. Let us never murmur because we are poor in this world, but strive to become rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which Thou hast promised to them that love thee. Oh grant that instead of coveting this world's wealth, we may think much of the glory of reigning with Jesus; and strive to be rich in faith and rich toward Thee, so that we may have treasure in heaven.

And give us, O Lord, a large heart of love to all men, that we may pray much for them. Bless the heathen, send out missionaries to teach them to worship the God of love, and not to bow down to stocks and stones. When it is in our power to give anything, however little, to help the great work, we pray that God who did not despise the widow's mite, may bless the humble offering, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR ALL THAT JESUS IS AND DOES FOR US.

O Lord God, Thou hast said, Whoso offereth me praise glorifieth me; we would glorify Thee by praising Thee for all the new mercies of another morning; for life, health, strength, food, clothes, shelter, more mercies than we can count, and most of all for our blessed Saviour. We thank Thee that he has taken away our sins, by his death on the cross. We thank Thee that he is our Prophet to teach us; that he reveals his truth to babes, and not to the wise and prudent. We thank Thee that he is our Priest, and offers up these poor prayers of ours in heaven: and that he is our King, and defends us from our enemies. We thank Thee, O Saviour, that Thou wast once a poor man like

us, and therefore knowest the wants and fears of a poor man.

O Holy Spirit, teach us to love our blessed Saviour more and more every day. Let us now in our daily work, show that we love him, by doing his will. Help us to remember that every thing we do, sows seed for eternity ; let us this day sow some good seed of faith, hope and obedience, to spring up unto eternal glory. We commit ourselves to thy Fatherly care and keeping, for our Saviour's sake. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

CONFESSION—PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT—INTERCESSION FOR THE JEWS.

O Lord, another day is passed and gone : and we cannot go to rest till we have praised Thee for all its mercies, and asked forgiveness for our many sins. We have done our own will, walked in our own way, and forgotten God, whose eye has been always on us. Our hearts are full of selfishness and unbelief—forgive our sins, for Jesus' sake. Oh let us not be content with confessing them with our lips ; make us really sorry for them, and cause us to strive to conquer them.

Thou hast said, if we, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto our children, much more wilt Thou give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask Thee : we ask it, O heavenly Father ; give it unto us. We are often weighed down with care—we want a Comforter : we are very ignorant—we want a Teacher, to bring all these things to our remembrance. We are weak and sinful, and want to bring forth love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith meekness, temperance, and all the blessed fruits of the Spirit —give us, then, thy Spirit.

And, O Lord, pour thy Spirit too on thine ancient people Israel : cause them to look on Jesus whom they have pierced, and mourn ; bring them back to their own land,

that their recovery may be as life from the dead to the world. Oh give us the Spirit of Jesus, to love and pray for the Jews.

Take us under thy protection this night: let quiet sleep prepare us for tomorrow's work. We ask every blessing for Jesus' sake.

FRIDAY MORNING.

FOR GRACE TO FULFIL EACH OUR OWN DUTY.

O Lord God, we are not of ourselves able so much as to think a good thought: we come therefore unto Thee for help and strength for another day's work; for Thou hast promised, that as our day is, so shall our strength be.

Let not our religion be a mere matter of words: let our lives agree with our prayers, As parents, let us bring up our children for God, and not provoke them by evil tempers, nor spoil them by indulgence: as children, let us obey our parents in the Lord, yielding ready, cheerful honour and obedience: as servants, let us obey our masters according to the flesh, not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but with good will, doing service as unto the Lord and not unto men.

Make us diligent in our work, whatever it is, and just and true in all our dealings. Let us remember the command, "Owe no man anything, but to love one another;" let us rather suffer present want than break this command, and so wrong our neighbour. And seeing that our God searches the heart, let us do all from a right motive, even for the love of him who died and rose again for us, for his name's sake. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

TO BE TAUGHT TO HATE SIN—FOR THE SUPPLY OF OUR BODILY WANTS.

O Lord God, though baptized in thy name and under

solemn promises to keep thy holy will and commandments, we have to confess, at the close of another day, how sadly we have broken our resolutions. As parents, we have failed in our duties to our children ; and as children, we have not honoured our parents as we ought. Our daily work has not been done as it ought to have been done, in the sight of God. We confess that we have sinned—Lord, take away all our iniquity, and receive us graciously.

Oh let us never, because Thou art ready to forgive, look on sin as a light thing ; but remember, that those sins that we have to-day committed were part of our Saviour's heavy load on the cross : let us hate sin as his murderer.

And now, Lord, encouraged by thy love, we would also bring before Thee the wants of our bodies, for Thou hast taught us to ask for our daily bread ; Thou dost feed the birds of the air—heavenly Father, suffer not thy children to starve ; Thou dost give their bright dress to the flowers of the field—clothe us too, O Lord, We come the more boldly unto Thee, for that Thou didst suffer hunger, thirst, and nakedness for us, and Thou dost know, by thine own experience, the wants of the poor of thy flock.

We leave all then, O Lord, with Thee. Give us to trust a Father's love, and to lie down in peace and sleep, knowing that Thou, Lord, only makest us to dwell in safety, for Christ's sake. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

TO BE KEPT FROM TEMPTATION—PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY.

Almighty God, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the High and Holy One, that inhabitest eternity, we thank Thee that Thou dost bow down thine ear to hear the poor and needy : that when the poor man cries, the Lord hears him.

To thy care we commit ourselves this day. Give us all good, preserve us from all evil ; especially preserve us and

our dear children from the dangers of evil companions, and temptations to drunkenness and excess. Keep us, Lord, for we ourselves are ignorant and foolish, from all the errors now abroad in the world. Let us know our Bibles too well, ever to listen to the falsehoods of popery and the blasphemies of infidels, or to follow the absurd follies of men given to change, who, like Satan's instruments, would tempt us to rebel against our king and country. Rather, from the heart, let us thank God for all the safety, and protection, and religious blessings which we enjoy in Christian England, and do what such as we are can do for our country's good, by fulfilling the duties of our station, and earnestly praying God to send down his blessing on our land.

Bless our beloved Queen, her children, those who rule under her, the Parliament, and the magistrates; and hear, O God, for thine eyes watch equally over high and low, and bless every one of us in the work of this day, for Christ's sake. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

TO PREPARE FOR ETERNITY—PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH.

Lord, at the close of another week, what reason have we to thank Thee for all the mercies which this week has brought with it—mercies for our bodies and for our souls! What reason have we too, to be humbled for the sins of this week, written against us in God's book; what a debt it is; Lord! blot out in the blood of Jesus.

Let every week which passes remind us how time flies, and how soon eternity must come. Let us often ask if we are ready to meet our God in judgment, and let us not delay to fly to Jesus for refuge, seeing that now is the accepted time. Oh forbid, gracious God, that one of us should be walking in the broad road to eternal misery. As we live together as one family on earth, let us all be

ready for our Saviour's coming, and live together for ever with him in the mansions of heavenly glory.

Bless us, Lord, on the morrow. Let no work be left undone to-night which ought not to be done on thy day. Bless our minister : teach him, that he may teach us. We thank Thee, Lord, for all the blessings we enjoy in our church ; for all its services, its sacraments, its prayers. God bless its bishops, priests, and deacons ; pour thy Spirit very largely on them, and on all thy congregations. Bless all those who love Jesus, though they do not walk in our way ; teach them also to submit to the ordinances of man, for the Lord's sake. Oh show all men the folly of choosing their own way, and the blessedness of choosing the things which please Thee ; that thy people may be of one mind in every thing, for Christ's sake. Amen.

Moveable Feasts and Fasts.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

MORNING PRAYER.

THANKS FOR THE FIRST COMING, AND PREPARATION DESIRED FOR THE SECOND COMING.

O God, whose name is Love, and who hast especially shown thy love towards us, in that Thou didst send thy only-begotten Son into the world that we might live through him, we thank Thee for all thy goodness to us. We joyfully confess before Thee, and would ever confess when called thereto before men, that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh, and that our hope is, that he will come again in the glory of his Father for our salvation.

What thanks we owe to Thee, that Thou hast thyself revealed it as a faithful saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, yes, to seek and to save that which was lost! And we trust that we too, a company of lost sinners, have been found by him. We would follow after him, if that we may apprehend and lay hold of that for which also we are apprehended of Christ. O give us all to attend supremely to this one thing, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, and pressing towards the mark, for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Give us with perfect confidence of heart to believe that Jesus has appeared in our nature, and did come to seek and to save that which was lost. Oh let us receive him gladly, and turn to Thee with our whole heart, rejoice in thy salvation, spread thy praise, do thy will, and live to thy glory.

Give us with the same perfect confidence to believe that the Lord Jesus is now in heaven appearing there in thy presence, ever living to make intercession for us, and waiting till his enemies be made his footstool. Let us in this confidence draw near to Thee with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water ; and let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering.

Give us grace also with the like confidence of heart to believe, that the same Jesus who was taken up into heaven in the sight of his disciples, will so come in like manner, from heaven to earth, to judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and kingdom. Help us to believe his own testimony : Surely I come quickly. Help us to be assured that the coming of the Lord draweth nigh, and that the Judge standeth before the door. Preserve us from the infidelity of scoffers who say, Where is the promise of his coming ?—and from the delusion of the wicked and slothful servant, saying, My Lord delayeth his coming. Fix us among those who come behind in no gift, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. O give us an expecting, longing, and thirsting desire for that blessed hope, the appearance in glory of the great God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

But, merciful Father, we especially entreat of Thee readiness for that day. Make us watchful and full of prayer. Let us put on all our heavenly armour. Give us the oil of truth : and let our lights be burning, and our loins girded, so that we may be counted meet to enter in unto the marriage-supper of the Lamb.

Enable thy faithful ministers to discern the signs of the

times, and to give to thy household, the Church, their meat in due season. And let the joyful cry, 'Behold! the Bridegroom cometh!' everywhere awaken thy people from slumber and indifference, and rouse them to prepare to meet their God.

Look in thy tender mercy on lukewarm churches, and those who say, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, not knowing that they are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind and naked. Oh let all such, before it be too late, attend to thy gracious counsel, and come to Thee, O Jesus, to be enriched, and clothed, and taught. Let them discern thy waiting providence, and hear thy voice, and open the door of their heart unto Thee, and partake yet of the coming blessedness of thy kingdom. Hear us, O our Father, for our Redeemer's sake.

EVENING PRAYER.

PREPARATION FOR THE JUDGMENT TO COME.

O God, who madest the world and all things therein, who art Lord of heaven and earth, and art now in the midst of us, for in Thee we live, and move, and have our being; help us ever to remember that Thou hast appointed a day in which Thou wilt judge the world by that Man, even Jesus our Lord, whom Thou hast appointed. Give us grace in everything so to labour, that we may be accepted of thee in that day. O let us never lose sight of the solemn truth, that we must all stand before the judgment-seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in the body, according to that he has done, whether it be good or bad.

And with the judgment yet to come, help us also to realize now the grace of God which bringeth salvation; the good tidings of great joy unto all people, that there is a Saviour which is Christ the Lord. Give us grace to believe thy love, O God, in sending thy only-begotten Son

into the world that we might live through him. Give us to rejoice in the assurance that Thou didst not send thy Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved : and that he that believeth on him is not condemned.

Let all of us know the day of our visitation, the season of grace, and the accepted time. While it is called to-day, give us to hear the voice of the Son of God and live : yet a little while the light is continued, grant us grace to walk in it. While we have the light, let us believe in the light, and be the children of the light. O Jesus, Thou true Light of the world, enlighten our darkness, and enable us to follow Thee, that we may not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.

Enable us all to look unto Jesus as our great High Priest, who has entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us ; having by his one offering perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Let us know and be assured that now once in the end of the world he hath appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Let every one of us with joyful confidence believe, not only that Christ was once offered to bear the sin of many, but also that unto them who look for him, he shall appear the second time, without sin unto salvation.

Oh grant unto us grace to be thus looking for him. Keep us among those who are expecting this blessed hope, and looking for the Lord ; and grant unto us all the quickening, purifying, and sanctifying power of this hope. Let it lead us to constant watchfulness and prayer, and busy occupation with our Master's talents till he come. Let it lead us to sobriety and moderation in all things. We would comfort one another with this hope. We would abound in works of love. Give us thy Holy Spirit abundantly, that we may gird up the loins of our mind, and hope to the end, for the grace to be brought unto us at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Let all the means of grace also be more diligently attended to. Bless the truths which we have been hearing

this day to our own souls. Bless us in the contemplation of all that glorious series of events, which thy church now begins to set before us, from this day to the day when we commemorate the eternal Trinity. Bless us in viewing the Saviour's birth, fasting and temptation; his death, his resurrection, his ascension, and the coming of the Holy Ghost; keep us in the Spirit, not only on the Lord's day, but through every sacred season. Oh bless the preaching of thy word in every place throughout the whole world, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Oh Father of mercies, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his name we come unto Thee. Hear us when we call upon Thee, and teach us to pray. How excellent is thy loving-kindness towards us! What countless proofs of it daily surround us. New light, and life, and health, and strength, and fresh family comforts, with all spiritual blessings in the fulness of Christ, now to be received freely from him, demand that grateful praise which we desire to offer unto Thee. Oh help us to see thy love; let all thy goodness pass before us. May we know, feel, and enjoy thy loving-kindness. Give us not merely the general knowledge of it in our minds, but give us a deep inward experience of it in our hearts. Grant us to dwell in love and so to dwell in Thee our God, and to have Thee thyself dwelling in us and with us. Oh! like Enoch may we all of us walk with Thee and then see more of thy beauty and glory every day, and beholding as in a glass this thy glory may we be changed into the same image, from glory to glory, by the Spirit of the Lord. Give us that same disinterested, self-denying, self-sacrificing love to others which our blessed Saviour has shown to us, so that we may go about doing good, and never be weary of well-doing.

Be with us in all our duties this day. Let none of us shrink from patiently, and faithfully, and diligently, and

laboriously going through the work which Thou hast appointed us and set before us. Let none of us be slothful in business, make all of us, by thy quickening grace, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Preserve us from loving in word only. Let our love be without dissimulation, and give us grace to be kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love ; in honour preferring one another. Enlarge our hearts with love to all true Christians of every name, and give us real love to all men.

Whether in teaching, or in learning, in ruling, or in serving, in gaining knowledge for future usefulness, or in diffusing that knowledge, let all our time and talents be yielded joyfully to Thee and spent in thy service.

Bless our relatives and friends, our parish, our church and our country. O that there may be a blessed revival of pure religion in this land, that we may be a far greater blessing to all lands. Let all thy faithful people enjoy the blessedness of looking for the Lord's coming, and be diligent to be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless, and at length receive the reward of the inheritance which he has promised to all them that love his appearing. Hear us for His Name's sake.

THURSDAY EVENING.

Blessed Lord, we come as a family before thy throne of grace, in the name of thy beloved Son, our Mediator and Advocate. We come sinful and guilty, for pardon and righteousness ; we come weary and needy, for rest and help. O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have all sinned ; we have turned every one to his own way, and unless we obtain thy mercy we perish for ever. Have mercy then upon us ; blot out as a thick cloud all our trangressions, and remember our sins and iniquities no more. May thy blessed Spirit convince us every one of our sinfulness, and bring before our minds what an evil and bitter thing it is to depart from Thee, and to live as without Thee in the world ; when we owe every thing to thy love, and wholly depend on Thee

for life, and breath, and all things. Thus give us to mourn for sin with that godly sorrow which works repentance unto salvation, not to be repented of; to believe with the heart on the Lord Jesus, and with the mouth to make confession unto salvation.

How great is thy goodness! how unfailing has been thy grace and loving-kindness to such sinners. Graciously hast Thou provided for all our wants, protected us from dangers, preserved us from evil, and multiplied thy benefits on every side. We thank Thee for strength for our duties, and thy favour and blessing in them. We thank Thee above all for the Lord Jesus Christ, and all the treasures of grace in Him. All glory be to Thee for the promise of thy Spirit, and the light of thy truth, and the hope of eternal life in Christ.

We beseech thee by Him who sittest at thy right hand, our Redeemer and Advocate, that Thou wilt give us ever to bless and glorify Thee, with thy Son and Holy Spirit, the one living and true God, with true contrition and reverence, with joy and thanksgiving. O do Thou thyself ever dwell and reign within us, governing every thought, word, and work, that we may in all things delight to do thy will. And as there is no hour, no instant in our whole life in which we do not partake of thy bounty, so there ought not to be, and we pray for grace that there may not be, any moment, in which we have not Thee our God in our recollection, and do not love Thee with all our strength.

To thy care and protection we commit ourselves, our relatives, our friends and all whom we love this night. We beseech Thee give to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, all spiritual blessings. We entreat Thee to bless our Church, and our country, our Queen, and all in authority, and send thy gospel to Jew and Gentile in all lands. Hasten the Lord's coming, and fill the earth with his glory, for His Name's sake.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O Lord our God, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! We desire to unite with all thy people who praise Thee day to day for thy daily blessings. How great is the sum of them, day by day. We thank Thee for the unbroken rest of the night, for the renewed health and strength bestowed upon us this morning; for the bounty which spreads our morning table with food and fills our house with goodness; for all the comfort of family love and the happiness of our home. But above all we bless Thee for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus and free salvation through him, the forgiveness of all our sins and our justification through his blood, and the gift of thy Spirit to teach us, guide us, sanctify us, and comfort us day by day. How gracious thine assurance that all things shall work together for good to them that love Thee; and how blessed the assured hope that goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life, and we may dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Oh, let thy loving kindness constrain us so that we may no longer live to ourselves, but live in all things to Him who died for us. We mourn that dreadful alienation, blindness of mind and of heart which has so often separated us from our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, from our best friends and our highest joy. We mourn over the suspicions, the darkness and the coldness of our evil hearts, towards Him in whom every faculty should be centred; to whom every affection should be consecrated. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. May we no longer have a will of our own opposed to thine, or separate from thine, but thy will be ours; may we delight to do thy will and to walk in all thy ways, Grant that our time may be redeemed for Thee, and help us in all our thoughts, words, and works, to seek only thy glory, thy kingdom, and thy righteousness.

Help us this day so to prepare beforehand, that by thy good Providence, we may have a quiet, undisturbed and

holy rest on thy Sabbath. Bless thy ministers in preparing for their public duties. Bless our parish, and our church. May true religion continually increase among us. Bless our rulers and our country, and may they seek thy honour as their great duty. Let Christian union and love more and more increase among thy people, that they may be all one, as Thou, O Father, art one with thy Son. Enlarge the blessed company of thy saints daily. Prosper thy church in every land ; convert Israel. Gather Thine elect from the Gentiles. Hasten the day of Christ, and the perfect joy of thy people in their gathering together to him, for his name's sake.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O our God, hear our cry, and attend unto our prayer, while we now call upon Thee in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We thank Thee for the many mercies of this day, and of the past week. How great is thy long-suffering, and how constant thy patience with us thy sinful creatures ! We know that we ought to love Thee supremely, in whom is all perfection and beauty, infinite excellence, and everlasting glory ; and daily as we are receiving of thy goodness and loving-kindness ; and great and inestimable as are the benefits which come to us through thy only-begotten Son Jesus Christ ; yet our hearts are dull, and our affections wander after vain things, and we often live as without God in the world. Oh give us true repentance and lively faith. Oh forgive all our ingratitude ; blot out as the thick cloud all our transgressions, and remember our sins no more.

We want another heart and another spirit, to serve the Lord wholly and fully. Teach us thy way, O Lord, and we will walk in thy truth. Unite our hearts to fear thy name. Behold us with pity, through the Son of thy love, amidst all our rebellious perverseness, weaknesses and helplessness. Pardon us and succour us, and that speedily. Give us Thine own Holy Spirit ; that renewed in the spirit

of our mind, we may, both in will and deed, and in every thing seek to please Thee.

Brought by thy goodness to the eve of thy holy day, we earnestly implore grace and blessing from Thee in its holy services : prepare our hearts for entering into them with a devout and heavenly spirit, thirsting and longing for thy presence in thy sanctuary. In the morning, may we rise with Thee present to our spirits, and give up ourselves to thy service : may we maintain a Sabbath spirit through the day. Help us to remember how much the week's spiritual prosperity is connected with the Sabbath duly observed, and in the use of Thine own appointed means, quicken and refresh our souls. Give to all thy ministers largely of thy Spirit, that they may faithfully make known thy truth, and preach Jesus, even him crucified, the only Saviour of us perishing sinners.

Oh Lord, we rejoice in the thought of the countless assemblies of thy people, that east and west, north and south, in every land, and in every clime, amidst all the various languages and diversified nations of men, by land and by sea, meet in thy name on thy day, to hear thy word, to sing thy praise, and to worship at thy footstool. We desire to have communion with all that in every place call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord, and ours. May grace and peace be multiplied unto them from Thee, O our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Every where prosper the messengers of Christ labouring among Jews and Gentiles ; and add unto thy church such as shall be saved ; and let thy way be known on earth, and thy saving health among all nations, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

MORNING.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord, glory be to Thee for all the mercies and privileges of another Sabbath : Thou didst

send thy Son to be the Saviour of the world, and he came and lived and died, and rose again for our salvation, and through his blood we have now access unto the holiest with confidence and full assurance of faith; shall we not then, together exalt the Lord our God, and together magnify his name, that these glad tidings have been made known to us, and received by us, as the joyful sound of our salvation; and that this day we are permitted with all thy worshipping hosts, to come unto thy presence, and praise thy name.

But, O Lord, we infinitely need thy grace and strength; so great is our weakness, so do our souls cleave to the dust, and vain thoughts so constantly come into our minds and lodge within us, that we never pray aright, we never worship Thee in spirit and truth, without the immediate and constant aid of thy Holy Spirit. Though all the powers and affections within us ought joyfully, and of ready and glad accord, to turn unto Thee, such is our vileness and corruption, they are estranged and alienated from Thee, their only true Lord and Sovereign, and given to vain things, that are all transitory and unprofitable. O Lord, wash our hearts from all this wickedness. Let thy Holy Spirit this day help our infirmities, and make intercession for us, according to thine own will.

Especially give us grace to prize thy holy word as the sure lamp to our feet, and the full and clear light for our paths: O may it be dearer to us than gold and silver, and sweeter to us than honey and the droppings of the honeycomb. Help us to read it patiently, prayerfully, and with close attention and self-application; help us to listen to it, whether read or preached, in much faith, receiving with meekness the engrafted word, that is able to save our souls. O do Thou graciously manifest thy presence in the assemblies of thy people; and grant that heavenly unction which comes from the Holy One—the teacher of all things. This day let thy Spirit be largely poured out on thy ministers: send them help from the sanctuary, and strengthen them out of Sion. This day may multitudes

of sinners be converted; let the mourner be comforted, the backslider be healed, the wanderer be reclaimed, the dull be quickened, and thy people everywhere be refreshed and strengthened, sanctified and blessed. May the consideration of the Lord's first coming lead us on more and more to the blessed hope of his Second Coming, and to constant preparation and readiness for the day of Christ. Hear us, for his name's sake.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

EVENING.

Almighty Father, the Most High, and Most Holy One, our Refuge and our Strength, receive us, and assist our prayers, through the mediation of Jesus Christ. We offer our most grateful thanksgivings for all the privileges and mercies of thine own day, thy house, and all the means of grace which we have enjoyed. Thou hast richly provided for our eternal welfare. Thy pure and undefiled word, in abundance, is given to us: thy ministers instruct us; we have the pious writings of thy servants from age to age, and unutterable advantages for becoming wise unto salvation.

How great and wonderful also, are the gifts freely bestowed upon us! The inestimable gifts of thine own Son to be our Redeemer, of thine own Spirit to be our Guide and Comforter, of thyself to be the portion of our inheritance, and of our eternal life in Christ Jesus; O how vast and overwhelming they are! Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God.

Most unthankful children,—most perverse and unprofitable servants have we been. If we give Thee the outward attendance and service of our bodies, O how we fail to render therewith, that which alone makes our service acceptable in thy sight, the affections of the heart and the united powers of the renewed mind. Truly, O Lord,

though to will may be present with us, yet how to perform that which is good we too often find not. What we would, that we do not, and what we hate, that we do. Deliver us from this body of sin and death, through Jesus Christ. Make us new creatures in Christ Jesus, and united to him, may we walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit, and find that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, has made us free from the law of sin and death.

Lord, grant that the truths which we have heard, and the instruction that has been given to us this day, may abide in our hearts, and produce the good fruits of a holy life, devoted to Thee. May we amend all that has been wrong, and be strengthened to do thy holy will. The same blessings we ask for all that in every land have this day heard the words of Christ; plant those words every where, as in good ground, and let them produce abundant fruit to thy glory.

We are encompassed with evils on every side; deceits and dangers, snares and temptations multiply around us. May we adhere the more closely to Thee, and to thy blessed word, and walk the more circumspectly. Let us never forget that the time is short, and that the Lord Jesus comes quickly, and that his day shall come as a snare on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth; and may we watch and pray, that we may be accounted worthy to escape all those things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man. Hear us for His great Name's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

MONDAY EVENING.

O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come; and we desire now to approach the throne of grace, in the assured conviction, that Thou, O God, seest us, and knowest the secrets of every heart, and that Thou art

ready to hear, to accept, and to answer every prayer from the heart, and according to thy will, in the name of Jesus Christ.

We have many and great wants. We are very sinful and very needy creatures. We have all of us broken thy holy laws; our faith in thy word has been feeble and weak, our hope in thy promises dull and inefficient, and our love to Thee and to others cold and dead. Oh, how little have we glorified Thee, or sought with earnestness and zeal, the enlargement of thy kingdom, and the spiritual and eternal welfare of all around us. How much have we dishonoured Thee, and walked unworthy of our high calling, by our inconsistencies, our selfishness, our indolence, and our worldliness.

We renounce then before Thee, all hope in our own righteousness for acceptance with Thee. We mourn over our great sinfulness in thy sight. We fly for refuge to the Lord Jesus Christ. We now look to Him who died for our sins, that we may be saved. We beseech Thee, number us among thy people, through faith in Him. Grant us free justification by thy grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Him hast Thou set forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare thy righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through thy forbearance. O may we rely on that propitiation with full confidence of heart.

And now, accepted in thy beloved Son, give us peace and joy in believing, give us purity of heart and fervent love in believing, give us victory over the world, through faith; and may we be strong in faith, giving glory to Thee. What thanks can we render as we ought, for such spiritual hopes and blessings! How can we duly shew forth thy praise. We call upon our souls, and all that is within us, to bless thy holy name. We join the glorious hosts above, and all thy redeemed on earth, in shewing forth thy praises, who hast called us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Glory, glory everlasting, be unto him who sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever.

O Lord, make thy grace which bringeth salvation, known unto all men. Bless every effort to convey the good tidings of great joy to lost sinners, east and west, north and south, in every land, and in every clime. Prepare the whole earth for the Redeemer's return and kingdom. Fill the world with the glory of our Immanuel, and let all nations be blessed in him :—for His Name's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O Thou God of peace and love, who didst so manifest thy love to us sinners, that Thou didst send Thy Son into the world for our salvation ; we give Thee praise for that unspeakable benefit conferred upon us, intreating Thee that we may never neglect so great a salvation, nor ever be unmindful of thy love ; who remembered us in our low estate, for his mercy endureth for ever.

With this sure proof of thy word, enable us to value with full confidence, thy loving-kindness in all things, in sickness as well as in health, in trouble as well as in ease, in sorrow as well as in joy, in adversity as well as in prosperity. May we know and believe that all things are ordered for us by a God of infinite wisdom, power, and love, and that all shall work together for our highest good.

And now, O our Father, grant unto us fresh communications of thy Holy Spirit for this day's trials and difficulties, comforts and blessings, duties and services. We have nothing in ourselves but sin and weakness ; freely forgive us all our great debt unto Thee ; freely supply all our need. We want fresh grace, fresh strength : we have no stores in ourselves to draw from ; but it has pleased Thee, that all fulness should dwell in Christ for our use, and there we now come to receive out of that fulness, grace for grace. Do Thou enable us this day to fulfil all that work which Thou hast appointed for us to do. Thou hast fixed the bounds of our habitation, Thou hast ap-

pointed the paths for each of us to walk in, Thou hast the fullest love to us, and hast ordained all, if we believe in Thee, and obey Thee, as is most for our own good, our advancement in heavenly things, and our usefulness to others. O give us grace to trust in Thee, to love Thee supremely, to obey Thee promptly, unreservedly, and in every thing. Make us all thy instruments for doing much good in our day and generation.

Bless all our relations, friends, neighbours, and acquaintance, and make us a blessing to them, and make them also a blessing to us. Give great success to the ministry of thy word, at home and abroad. Look upon the poor and the afflicted, provide for their wants, and comfort them in all their sorrows, and sanctify all for their good; hasten the predicted glory of thy Church at the coming of the Lord. Bless all religious societies, and all efforts for doing good to the bodies and souls of men. Stir up thy people to abound in good works, and may they find a great reward in keeping Thy commands, for our Redeemer's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Almighty, and Most Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, receive us and regard our prayers through him who died for our sins. Oh may Thy Holy Spirit convince us of all sin. May we know the extent of that law which Thou hast given, and which is holy, just, and good. Discover to us more of thine own spotless holiness and purity. Let the things of Christ be discerned by us, and so may we see our great sinfulness, Oh may we learn to loath and abhor ourselves, and to be ashamed and confounded before Thee, and mourn for our sins with that broken and contrite heart which Thou wilt not despise; but especially may the knowledge of our crucified Redeemer and the believing view of Jesus pierced for our sins fill us with holy sorrow and compunction; may that sin which

caused his sufferings be very bitter and loathsome to us; and may we turn from and forsake every evil way, and walk daily in the paths of righteousness and peace. O Lord for this we need far mightier strength than our own. Fulfil to us that gracious promise, "I will strengthen them in the Lord and they shall walk up and down in his name."

We have to confess before Thee, how we have trifled with our precious time, neglected to improve our talents, and sought present ease and gratification; Lord, forgive us all our sins, negligences, and infirmities; give us grace to redeem the time, to be diligently occupied in thy service, with every talent thou hast given us, and patiently to go through toil and endure trials and sacrifices for Thee: May we not sow to the flesh, but day by day sow to the Spirit, that we may of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

And, O Lord our God, seeing we live in a world full of snares and temptations, and going in that course, which is contrary to Thee and thy word, we pray Thee to grant us thy grace, that none of us may be conformed to it, but that we may all be transformed by the renewing of our mind, to prove thy good, and acceptable, and perfect will.

Thanks be unto Thee, thou source of every good, for all this day's mercies and blessings; for thy protecting care over us, Thy providing love for us, and the benefits which have been again renewed to us. For every family mercy, for every social enjoyment, for every deliverance from evil, and every portion of good,—we are debtors to thy sovereign mercy. How many are destitute of those things which Thou hast so freely given to us thy unworthy servants. Give us grateful hearts for our many blessings; give us loving and compassionate hearts to our fellow-creatures.

We bring before Thee, all in affliction of mind, body, or estate. Supply their need, and sanctify every trial. We beseech Thee to bless our Queen, and all in authority over us; that we may live quiet and peaceable lives, in all godliness and honesty. Prosper thy Church in every land, and make ready a people prepared for the Lord. Bless our

country, and make it a blessing to all lands. Deliver us from our many national sins, give us true repentance, and a zeal for thy truth and kingdom, according to the vast advantages thou hast given us. Hear us, for our Redeemer's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O Lord, our God and our Saviour, receive our morning supplications and thanksgivings. Thy mercy is in the heavens, and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds. Thy righteousness is like the great mountains, Thy judgments are a great deep. Thou preservest, O Lord, man and beast. How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O Lord: therefore we thy children would put our trust under the shadow of thy wings. We thank Thee with all our heart, for our innumerable family blessings. We thank Thee for the glorious gospel of thy grace, and that the joyful sound has gladdened our hearts.

With Thee is the fountain of life, and in thy light we shall see light: O continue thy loving-kindness to them that know thee, and thy righteousness, in which is all the hope and trust of us sinners, to the upright in heart, who feel and acknowledge our sinfulness, and desire to know and do thy will. Keep us this day without sin, guard us from all evil, bestow upon us that which Thou seest good for us, and make us a real help, comfort, and blessing, to all around us. Oh Almighty Father, pour out thy blessed Spirit very abundantly upon us, that we may bring forth much fruit, and abundantly glorify thy holy name, by extensive usefulness in our day and generation.

Hasten the coming of thy kingdom. May our glorious king, the Lord Jesus Christ, speedily return to reign over the house of Jacob, and over all the earth; let all the ends of the world remember and turn unto him; and all the kindreds of the nations worship before Thee. Bless especially thy Church in every land: deliver it from Popery,

infidelity and lawlessness, and all the many temptations and enemies, with which it is encompassed on every side; let no root of bitterness rise up to trouble us, whereby many shall be defiled. May it break forth on the right hand, and on the left, and be extended in its fullest blessing to Jews and Gentiles in every land. Honour the churches of Christ in these kingdoms with a large share, according to the means which Thou hast given us, in diffusing thy gospel far and wide.

Multiply the labourers, and bless all their labours; may none ever be weary in well doing, knowing that in due time they shall reap, if they faint not.

To Thee we commend our Queen, our princes and nobles, our rulers and statesmen; guide all their measures to the best welfare of our country. We implore thy blessing on all connected with each member of our family. Look in mercy upon the afflicted, the tempted, and the distressed, provide for all, and send thy blessed gospel to every creature in all the world, for the sake of Him who ever liveth and maketh intercession for us.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; who art from everlasting, the One living and true God, blessed for ever,—we commend unto Thee this evening, our bodies and our souls, and all that concerns us, and our relations, friends, and neighbours, and all that are dear to us, beseeching thee to watch over all, and keep all under thy good providence and protection. Oh keep us from all evil and offences, from all snares and temptations, from all enemies visible and invisible; expel from within us all boasting and vain glory, and increase compunction of heart: remove from us all pride, and give us true humility; give us grace to mourn for our sins; and soften our hard and stony hearts, and change them into hearts of flesh. Deliver

us, O Lord, from all the devices of our great enemy Satan, and quicken us to do thy will in all things, for Thou art our God and our Saviour. Put away far from us every thing that Thou hatest in us, and give us the Spirit of truth and love, confidence and holiness, and every thing which is acceptable in thy sight.

O Lord, pity us, and regard us with thy favour, from the holy throne of thy majesty, and enlighten the darkness of our hearts, with the light of the knowledge of thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

We praise together thy great and glorious name: O Thou who art the blessed and only Potentate, the king of kings, and Lord of lords, who only hast immortality; dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen or can see, to Thee be honour and power everlasting. It is of thy bounty that we have been largely partaking this day, and we would not forget all thy benefits; thus daily renewed, and with which we are continually blessed; food and raiment, protection and multiplied temporal comforts, and still higher and better benefits in all spiritual blessings, in heavenly things in Christ Jesus, we have received from Thee. Grant us a grateful heart, and to Thee be all praise and glory.

While thus ourselves partaking so largely and so constantly of thy goodness, let us never be unmindful of others; seeking our own things and disregarding theirs. Lord! bless and provide for the needy and destitute; visit the weak and strengthen them, heal the sick, restore the wanderer; help the feeble. Put down the oppressor and raise the oppressed. Raise up faithful labourers to gather in the spiritual harvest. Prepare thy church and make it ready for the Lord's coming, and so speedily establish the holy, righteous, and peaceable dominion of the Lord Jesus in every land: unto whom with Thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost the Comforter, be glory, honour, and praise, world without end.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Almighty Father, to whom we all have access, through one Mediator and by one Spirit, receive us returning sinners coming again to Thee our most gracious God and Father. We offer our morning thanksgivings unto Thee for the quiet rest of the night, and the renewed mercies of another day; for our numberless family and social blessings, and for all our spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. Every ray of sunshine, every drop of rain, every blade from the earth, every breath of air, every article of our food is from thy bounty; every hope now, and our hope of glory for ever, all flow from Thee. All we have and enjoy comes from Thee. Most justly then is it our duty and our privilege to render unceasing praise unto Thee.

O enable us to enter far more than we have done, into perfect confidence and full assurance of understanding of thy loving-kindness in every thing: in sickness as well as in health, in losses as well as in gains, in disappointments as well as in success, and in sorrow as well as in joy. Give us the quieting, strengthening, and joyful confidence, that all things concerning us are ordered by Thee, O our God, in infinite wisdom and love; and therefore, that all things work together for our real good while we love Thee. Give us grace, then, to delight ourselves in the Lord, and always to rejoice in Christ Jesus.

We mourn before Thee our sinful unbelief and hardness of heart and worldliness of spirit, which so continually separate between Thee and our souls, and rob us of our true rest and joy. Forgive all that is past, and create in us a clean heart. We ask for fresh communications of thy Spirit for this day's duties. We want fresh grace from Thee the fountain-head of grace; fresh light, fresh love, fresh strength, fresh holiness from Thee, the only original source of all goodness. We have no supply in ourselves. Thou art our riches, Thou art our treasure, all our springs

are in Thee. Enable us by thy Spirit to fulfil the work which Thou wouldest have us to do. Thou hast placed each of us in that exact station which Thou seest most for thy glory, for our good, for our advancement in the divine life, and for usefulness to others. Let these blessed ends be accomplished in us. O make us thy vessels of mercy to bear mercy to others, and thy light to give light. Bless every relative, every friend, every Christian brother, every neighbour, every fellow-creature. Hasten the coming of Christ, and the latter-day glory of thy Church. Cut short the days of sin, and the empire of Satan, and establish that blessed kingdom which is righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost, for Christ's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O Almighty Father, the good One, the great One, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders; who hast said, Whoso offereth me praise, glorifieth me, in the name of Jesus we render to Thee our grateful praise for mercies countless as the sands on the sea-shore. How can we thank Thee as we ought for all the blessings of thy glorious gospel, for the light of the knowledge of thy glory, which shines in our hearts in the face of Jesus Christ, and all the treasures hid in him for our salvation. Oh may we love Thee with all our heart, serve Thee without ceasing, and spend all our talents, time, and strength for Thee; rejoicing to do every thing that Thou wouldest have us to do.

But we are unworthy of the least of thy mercies. We are in ourselves vile and sinful, our hearts are deceitful and desperately wicked. Our goodness is as the morning dew which quickly passes away. We are wayward and backsliding, and in our flesh no good thing dwells. With all this load of guilt, we come again this evening to thy throne of grace, and earnestly implore pardoning mercy,

and quickening grace. Thou wilt not, O our Father, who hearest prayer, refuse to hear our cry. Thou wilt not send us back with empty vessels, when we come in the name of thy beloved Son to receive out of thy fulness supplies for all our need. It is thine own promise by thine own Son, that "every one that asketh receiveth, and he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." We ask, we seek, we knock. We unite our supplications together, and we beseech Thee to give us a heart broken under the sense of sin, a deep and genuine repentance for all we have done wrong, a contrite spirit and self-abasement in thy presence. We unite our supplications together and beseech Thee to give us a lively faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in all the precious promises made to us sinners in him. We unite our supplications again, and beseech Thee to give us a lively hope of thy coming kingdom and glory; and that we may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost; and especially give to every one of us the most excellent of thy gifts of grace, fervent love, laborious, unwearied love, supreme love to Thee, and unfeigned, glowing, extended love to our fellow men.

Oh, more and more produce in us by the powerful energy of thine own spirit the mind of Christ, that we may be daily more and more conformed to his image and likeness, and tread in his steps, till we come to his glory.

Hear us in behalf of our relatives, our neighbours, our parish, our country, our church, and the whole Church of Christ. Call thy people out of Babylon. Reform corrupted churches. Revive decaying churches. Quicken everywhere the graces of thy people, and enlarge all their works of faith and love. Bless all thy missionary servants. Remove the veil from Israel. Gather in thine elect speedily from the Gentiles. Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, and fill the earth with thine own blessed kingdom, for thy name's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O Lord, our God, blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. Thou, even Thou, art Lord above: Thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their hosts, the earth and all things that are therein, the sea, and all that is therein, and Thou preservest them all, and the host of heaven worshippeth Thee; Thou art the Lord, the God, who didst give thine only-begotten Son to die for our sins, and who dost now give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask in the name of Jesus: we beseech Thee graciously to bestow now upon us that same Spirit; may he dwell in us daily, and be our Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter.

O Lord, it is not outward seriousness; it is not the words of our lips nor the bending of our knees, that is acceptable worship in thy sight; we need thy Holy Spirit to work in us, and with us. O give us the thirsting and longing after Thee, the desire of the heart after Thy presence, thy help and thy blessing. Manifest more and more thy loving kindness to us. Help us to know that love of Christ which in its fulness passes all knowledge; shew us its length and breadth, and depth, and height, grant us to live under such a constant sense of it, as thereby to be constrained not to live to ourselves, but to him who died for us: give us also we entreat Thee the very mind of Christ, make us like him in all our conduct this day; like him in patience and forbearance, like him in meekness and gentleness, in laborious diligence, in self-denial, in deep love, in heavenly-mindedness, and in delighting to do thy will, O our God.

O Lord, we would indeed thus, and ever thank Thee and praise Thy name, for the merciful and complete redemption which Thou hast given us, through the blood of Jesus, for the free forgiveness in Him of our many sins: Thou didst look upon us in tender pity when dead in trespasses and sins, and in wonderful love didst love and call us out of

darkness into the marvellous light of thy gospel. Oh quicken us by thy loving-kindness, and raise us up with all thy people to sit together with Christ in heavenly places. Grant us to know thy grace truly, to prize it as above all price, and may it have its full issue, in all holy, purifying, and spiritual blessings. Let us not merely live in a day of grace, but so effectually receive that grace, that we safely pass on to everlasting glory.

Merciful Father, be with us through this day, guard us from all temptation, quicken and strengthen us for all duty, enable us to deny ourselves. Make us willing to suffer with Christ here that we may reign with him for ever.

And spread abroad through the earth the knowledge of thy blessed gospel. May it enlighten and bless all countries and kingdoms. May the Jew rejoice in his long-rejected Messiah. May many nations call him blessed. Prosper the Church of Christ. Bless our own country, our own Queen, our own church, our relatives, our friends, and our neighbours; relieve the sick and the afflicted, and speedily return to bless thy waiting people, O Lord Jesus, for thy name's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O Lord our God, the true God, the faithful God, who keepest covenant and mercy with them that love Thee, and keep thy commandments, to a thousand generations, and repayest those that hate Thee to their face, to destroy them; —in the name of Jesus Christ, we desire now with reverence and godly fear to worship Thee, and give Thee glory for all thy daily goodness to us. Light and life, food and clothing, health and strength, family provisions and comforts are thy gifts day by day. Thy word is with us a light to our feet; Thy Son is our Saviour, Thy Spirit is our teacher, Thou art our portion, and eternal life is thy gift in Christ Jesus—all glory be to Thee for these thy benefits.

Though we have been sinful and ungrateful, unbelieving and backsliding, Thou art never weary of doing us good. Oh, that this goodness may lead us to repentance. May we all grieve from the heart for those offences against Thee and against each other, which justly provoke thy wrath against us. Give us self-knowledge, self-abasement, contrition, and love. Oh, help us to put on, as the elect of God, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness and long-suffering, forbearing and forgiving one another in love. O God Almighty, enable us to enter fully into that blessed truth that God is love, and to realize that love in all thy dealings towards us, that so our love to Thee may be enkindled and maintained, and we may dwell in love and God dwell in us. Teach us how excellent is thy loving-kindness. Make us quick to discern and remember it, give us grace to see it in the hardest lessons and in the most difficult and perplexing of our trials ; so that even in thy chastisement and scourging we may neither faint nor rebuke ; but ever see the same hand of love that gavest thy only-begotten Son for our salvation.

And graciously grant unto us Thine own mind and image, in righteousness and true holiness. Deliver us from selfishness and pride, from unbelief and hardness of heart, from vain glory, from levity and folly. Let all our past sins be washed away in the blood of Jesus, and our souls renewed by Thine own Spirit.

Preserve the blessings of peace. Sanctify all our national blessings to the good of our country and of the human race. Pardon our great national sins, our pride and disregard of thy word, thy Sabbath, thy will and thy glory. Bless the efforts of thy children to do good at home and abroad. Glory be to Thee for what Thou hast done by them, and give yet more abundant blessings. Refresh us and ours with great rest, and protect us from all evil, through Jesus our Redeemer.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O Thou most merciful, most righteous, and most Holy Lord God, our Heavenly Father, in the name of one Mediator, and we have no other, and blessed be thy name, we need no other but the Lord Jesus Christ,—we thy sinful children, full of sin, and altogether weak and helpless, come again into Thy presence. We beseech Thee especially for the gift of Thy Holy Spirit. What good can we think, or speak, or practice, without his help. O Divine Redeemer, send unto us the Holy Spirit which proceedeth from the Father. Assist us in all our duties this day. Enable us to go through all our occupations, as a duty unto the Lord and not unto men. Let not a mere necessity or habit be the reason why we fulfil our daily toil ; but let us be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Let our high aim be to approve ourselves in thy sight and to do thy will. May this be our ruling and governing motive ;—to please Thee and to be accepted in thy sight.

But without Christ we cannot do this. Our sin has corrupted and weakened us. When we would do good, evil is present with us. How perverse, how abominable in thy sight must be this alienation from Thee the Author and Giver of all our blessings ! Oh, how continually we have forsaken Thee and turned every one to his own way. We are ever prone to that which is evil and bent to backslide. What could we do without our Divine Saviour, that Redeemer on whom Thou hast laid the iniquity of us all. Blessed be Thy name, Thou hast laid help on one that is mighty ; and hast made to be sin for us, Him who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him : Oh ! let us not receive this grace in vain. Let not one of us harden our hearts. May we all hear the voice of the Son of God and return unto Thee with our whole heart and soul.

And strengthen us with might by thy Spirit in the

inner man. Let the Holy Ghost dwell in our bodies, as in temples ever consecrated to Thy service ; thus let our treasure, our heart, our conversation be in heaven ; and may we seek continually those things which are above.

O Father of mercies, bless our family and all its members and relatives whether present or absent. We have many relations, all dear to us by nature, and some dearer still, as united to us in Christ. Lord, give to all thy grace and peace, and multiply thy mercy upon them. Bless all the Churches of Christ throughout the world and unite Thy people every where more to each other, and enable them to rejoice in and maintain more firmly than ever, the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Grant unto us all, grace to be waiting for the coming of Christ, labouring to be accepted of him in that day. Be with all thy servants, seeking the salvation of sinners, and give full success to all their labours. Help us this day to remember the Sabbath-day and so to prepare before-hand that we may without worldly hindrances give up ourselves to the holy duties of thine own day on the morrow, for Jesus Christ's sake.

SECOND WEEK IN ADVENT.

SATURDAY EVENING.

Almighty Father, Creator of all things ; Divine Redeemer, who took our nature and died, and rose again and now livest for us ; Holy Spirit, the sanctifier of the elect, the one ever living and true God, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we afresh consecrate ourselves and all we are to thy service. Holy Spirit, help our infirmities. Divine Redeemer, offer up our prayers in Thine own name. Heavenly Father, receive us, and number us among thy sons and thy daughters.

We are indeed miserable sinners, worms of the earth, cleaving to the dust, and ever prone to depart from Thee. But O Lord our God, we believe that Thou hast a Father's heart towards us, and that as a father pitieth his children, so thou the Lord pitieth them that fear Thee. Oh, then

give good things to us who now ask good things from Thee. Give us free and full pardon of all our sins, and free justification in thy sight. Give us the spirit of adoption. Give us thy blessed Spirit, to new create our souls unto righteousness, to rectify and sanctify our whole body, soul, and spirit, and make all what shall be acceptable in thy sight. Give us a holy and heavenly mind. Make us to hunger and to thirst after righteousness that we may be filled. Seal us in our foreheads with Thine own name, and make us thus living epistles of Christ, known and read of all men. Oh! may we not be conformed to the world, but transformed and made like unto Christ in all his holy, pure, loving, meek, tender, and heavenly image. Help us, having the hope of his glory, daily to purify ourselves even as he is pure.

Thanks be unto Thee for all the mercies of this day, for the provision made for our wants, for the comfort of family love; to Thee we owe all our affection to each other and all our happiness in each other, and together we praise Thee, the fountain-head of every good, to our bodies and to our souls, for time and for eternity. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable benefits to us sinners, in Christ Jesus our one Saviour.

As we have been blessed of Thee so may we seek to be blessings to others. Give us grace to look on the things of others that we may help them. Bless the members of our families wherever scattered. Bless masters and servants, parents and children. May no servant come under our roof without receiving a blessing. Bless all in authority over us. Provide for the poor, comfort the afflicted. Pity the heathen and prosper all Missionary labours. Graft in the Jew and fulfil all thy promises in his conversion and restoration. Come, Lord Jesus, and bless the whole earth, and in the Father's good time restore the kingdom to Israel. And now to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three persons in one God, be all honour and glory, now and ever. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT.

MORNING.

Almighty Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thank Thee that it hath pleased Thee that all fulness should dwell in our Divine Redeemer for our use. Oh! grant us grace that we may come to Him, and receive of his fulness, grace, and help, for this day's sacred duties, and find holy love, and heavenly joy, and divine peace in them all. Fill our souls with divine love. O gracious Father, so shed abroad thy love in our hearts this day by thy Holy Spirit, that we may have a hope that maketh not ashamed; that we may love Him who has so first loved us, and that all we have and all we are, may be more and more consecrated to our God. May we delight in Thy worship and service. Open Thou our lips, and our mouths shall shew forth Thy praise; open our hearts that we may attend to the things spoken in Thy word. Help us in all the services of this day to offer unto Thee a pure offering, free from vain, worldly, and distracting thoughts. Give us the communion of saints in worshipping with Thy people in Thy house. Give unto us to fulfil the Redeemer's new commandment of loving one another, and oh! may this love abound more and more, that we may not love in word only but in deed and in truth.

Behold, we come unto Thee, for Thou art the Lord our God. Oh! may we come with true repentance, forsaking all that Thou hast forbidden. May we come unto Thee with all the affections of our heart, looking to our one Mediator the Lord Jesus Christ, and under the drawings of that blessed Spirit which helpeth our infirmities. Give us full confidence in Thy promises, full assurance of Thy loving-kindness, and a fixed purpose to do Thy will and live to Thy praise. O Lord, increase our faith; give us more faith in every part of Thy word, more faith in Thy threatenings and awful denunciations against sin, more

faith in Thy pardoning mercy, and in Thy grace and tender love towards us Thy sinful children.

Bless the word this day preached among us, and in all the Churches of Christ throughout the world. Greatly enlarge the Redeemer's kingdom, Bring to nought all antichristian opposition to Thy gospel, and open doors of utterance to Thy faithful ministers in every land. Assist them to make Thy truth known distinctly, boldly, and widely. Bless every effort to do good to souls. Prosper all school-teachers, visitors of the poor, and readers of the Scriptures to them. May no attempt, however feeble, to make Christ known to those who know him not, whether among Jew or Gentile, at home or abroad, be without Thy favour and blessing. We thank Thee for the abundant spiritual privileges which we enjoy, and we pray that in the use of the means of grace, we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Hear us for His sake.

Passion Week.

SCRIPTURE PORTIONS RELATING TO THE DAYS OF OUR LORD'S PASSION.

The Lord's Day, the first day of the week—
John xi. 55—57; xii. 1—11. Matthew xxvi. 6, 13. Mark xiv. 3—9.
Monday, the 2nd day of the week—
Matthew xxi. 1—11, 14—17. Mark xi. 1—11. Luke xix. 29—44. John xii. 12—36.
Tuesday, the 3rd day of the week—
Matthew xxi. 12, 13. 18—22. Mark xi. 12—19. Luke xix. 45—48.
Wednesday, the 4th day of the week—
Matthew xxi. 23; xxvi. 5, and 14—16. Mark xi. 20; xiv. 2, 10, 11. Luke xxi. 1—8; xxii. 6; John xii. 37—50.
Thursday, the 5th day of the week—
Matthew xxvi. 17, 21—23; xxvii. 1, 2. Mark xiv. 12; xv. 1. Luke xxii. 7; xxiii. 1. John xiii. 1; xviii. 28.
Friday, the 6th day of the week—
Matthew xxvii. 11—61. Mark xv. 2—47. Luke xiii. 2—55. John xix. 14—42.
Saturday, the 7th day of the week—
Matthew xxvii. 62—66. Luke xxiii. 56. 1 Peter iii. 17—22.
Easter day—
Matthew xxviii. 1—8, 11—15. Mark xvi. 1—13. Luke xxiv. 1—25. John xx. 1—25. 1 Cor. xv. 5.

THE EPISTLES AND GOSPELS APPOINTED BY THE CHURCH FOR EACH DAY IN PASSION WREK.

Palm Sunday—Epistles, Phil. ii. 5—11; Gospel, Matthew xxvii. 1—54.
Monday—Epistle, Isaiah lxiii. 1 to end; Gospel, Mark xiv. 1 to end.
Tuesday—Epistle, Isaiah i. 5 to end; Gospel, Mark xv. 1—39.
Wednesday—Epistle, Heb. ix. 16 to end; Gospel, Luke xxii. 1 to end.
Thursday—Epistle, 1 Cor. xi. 17 to end; Gospel, Luke xxiii. 1—49.
Good Friday—Epistle, Heb. x. 1—25: Gospel, John xix. 1—37.
Easter Eve—Epistle, 1 Peter iii. 17 to end; Gospel, Matthew xxvii. 57 to end.
Easter Day—Epistle, Col. iii. 1—7; Gospel, John xx. 1—10.

The prayers which follow for this week have chiefly a reference to the facts and instruction of the respective days in the week.

PALM-SUNDAY MORNING.

FOR GRACE TO LOOK TO A SUFFERING SAVIOUR.

O Lord God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who from the beginning didst ordain thy Son Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sins, and the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world; we bless thy holy name for all those gracious appointments, both of the Old and the New Testament, by which this only hope of our souls is kept constantly before thy people. Thanks be to Thee for the Lamb slain in the morning and evening sacrifice, under the law, and for all those atonements and sacrifices which pointed out Jesus, and the shedding of his blood for us. Thanks be to Thee for the sacred ordinance of the Passover, appointed at so remarkable a season of the deliverance of thy people from Egypt, that we might therein discern Christ our Passover slain for us. Thanks be to Thee for the full history of this Sacrifice in the Holy Gospels. Thanks be to Thee for the Lord's Supper to be observed by us in remembrance of his body given and broken, and his blood shed for us.

O Lord, grant that with so many memorials of this great propitiation for the sins of the whole world, we may never be unmindful of so great a benefit, nor hide so great a light under a bushel, nor neglect so great a salvation. Like thy blessed apostle Paul, may we determine to make Christ, even him crucified, the one object on which we continually dwell, and let us thankfully avail ourselves of the appointment of thy church for assisting us in fulfilling this great and truly profitable duty.

We do earnestly pray unto Thee to make this a special season of quickening, revival, and blessedness to our souls. O let thy Spirit take of the things of Christ and show them to us. Discover to our souls the glories of his person, as God over all, blessed for ever, and very man in our nature, of our flesh and blood, touched with a feeling of our infirmities, and tempted in all points like as we are,

yet without sin. Especially reveal to us the wonders of his dying love, and all the glorious benefits of the stupendous sacrifice made by his death for our sins.

Thus let Divine love fill and possess our whole souls; and sin in all its abomination and sinfulness be detected and discovered to us. Oh grant that henceforward we may hate it with a real hatred, and live wholly to him who died for us.

Grant that all the ends of the earth may remember at length the sufferings of Jesus, and turn unto the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations worship before Thee. As Jesus gave himself a ransom for all, so in due time let it be testified to all, and all know Thee from the least to the greatest.

And, O Lord, now give us grace, while worshipping in thy courts this day, ever to be looking to Jesus, and realizing the constant allusions to his intercession, and the full history given us in the services of the day, of his sufferings and death. Give us fellowship of spirit with all which he has done, is doing, and will do for us, and let us glory in his cross, and by it be crucified to the world, and the world to us. Hear us, for his name's sake.

PALM-SUNDAY EVENING.

TO BE LIKE THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

O Lord Jesus Christ, our best friend, our highest benefactor, who didst in thy last days take up thine abode at the dwelling of those whom Thou didst specially love, even Martha, Mary, and Lazarus; pour into our hearts such love to Thee, that we may long for thy presence. Come at this time to us also, and make thy abode with us, and dwell in our hearts by faith. We beseech Thee to give us such grace that we may love Thee and hear thy words; and grant that the Father may love us, and with Thee come unto us, and that both the Father, and thyself may

constantly dwell in our hearts, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

And enable us to show to Thee and thine, all self-denying and devoted love. As Martha rejoiced to serve Thee, let us gladly with our best means serve the Lord. As Lazarus, raised from the dead, sat at meat with Thee, so, raised from the death of trespasses and sins, and quickened together with Thee, may we sit together and feast with Thee in heavenly places, and have meat to eat which the world knows not of.

And, with this, give us also the listening, loving spirit of Mary. Let us, like her, sit at the feet of Jesus and hear his words, attend to the one thing needful, and choose the good part which shall not be taken from us. Let us, like her, rejoice to be at great cost for our Redeemer, and to pour our best gifts upon him ; anointing his feet with the fragrant odours of gifts of love and gratitude. O Holy Ghost, pour into our hearts fervent, glowing, self-sacrificing love to Jesus—love which will show itself, now that he is absent in person, in doing good to the poor always, and especially in diffusing the blessing of his gospel.

And we pray Thee, keep us far from the grudging, hypocritical, and deceitful spirit of the traitor Judas—murmuring at, instead of rejoicing in, the grateful love of others to thy name, and kingdom, and glory. O Lord, let the whole earth be blessed by the love of thy church. Let the angel fly through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation and kindred and tongue and people. According to thy gracious promise, wherever the gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, let Mary's love to Thee be spoken of for a memorial. And at length let the death and burial of Jesus for us sinners be embalmed in the grateful recollection of all mankind, in that coming kingdom of glory for which we wait.

O Jesus, grant that we, like Mary, may be thoughtful to do what we can, as she did what she could, duly to celebrate thy death and burial, and let us show our grati-

tude to Thee for thy inestimable love in our redemption. Being now bought with a price, let us ever consider that we are no longer our own, but thine, and glorify Thee in our bodies and our spirits, which are thine.

Give, O Heavenly Father, thy full blessing to what we have heard this day in thy house, or have read from thy word. Cause it to abide with us, and make us fruitful in every good word and work. Grant to such of us as hope shortly to join thy faithful people at thy table, in the solemn ordinance of the Lord's Supper celebrated at this sacred season, abundant grace to examine ourselves, and give time to private meditation and prayer, and so to go to that table with a penitent, believing, and loving heart, and to receive by faith the inestimable blessings of the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Let this ordinance be specially observed by thy people at this time—be a very large and growing blessing to them, enabling them to feed on Christ by faith now, and to look forward to our blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our Lord and Saviour. Hear us, for his name's sake.

MONDAY MORNING.

FOR GRACE TO MEDITATE ON CHRIST, AND TO CONFESS HIM.

O our Lord and our God, the first and the last, Thou that livest and wast dead, and art alive for evermore, to whose incarnation, sufferings, and death for us, we owe all our present blessings, every hope of future good, and especially the ground of our confidence in the judgment to come, and the gift of eternal life—all glory be unto Thee. In this week, set apart to commemorate thy passion, we desire grace of Thee, to give more time and thought to consider thy sufferings on the cross, and thy putting away our sins by the sacrifice of thyself, and to meditate on all thy love to our souls.

We would set Thee, our dying Lord, continually before

our minds, all through the week—ever looking unto Jesus, as the author and finisher of our faith. Enable us to meditate much on those parts of thy word, which either in type, or prophecy, or history, or doctrine, or songs of triumphant joy in heaven, bring before us thy atoning sacrifice, and the full propitiation thereby made for our sins. Nor let us be ashamed of the sacrifice of Christ, by which our sins are taken away, nor keep it back from the view of others; but let us confess it more boldly and openly, glory in it more continually, and find it daily more effectually the power of God to our salvation, and that of countless numbers of believers in our own land, and among all men, Jews and Gentiles, throughout the world.

O Lord Jesus, grant unto us to know that we are justified not by the works of the law, but by faith in Thee. Through the law, like thy blessed apostle Paul, make us dead to the law, that we may live unto God. We would be crucified with Thee, O Christ, and nevertheless live; yet not we, but Thou thyself living in us; and the life which we now live in the flesh let us live by faith in Thee, the Son of God, who didst love us and give thyself for us. O precious Saviour, Divine Redeemer, and quickly returning Lord and King, hear our prayers, for thy name's sake, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

HOSANNAHS TO THE SAVIOUR—PRAYERS FOR HIS SPEEDY RETURN TO ZION.

O our Divine Redeemer, who, as on this day, before thy sufferings, didst, as the King of Zion, ride into Jerusalem meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass, we would join the joyful acclamation of the great multitude by whom Thou wast welcomed, crying, Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest. We

worship and adore Thee, our King, our God and Saviour, for Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father.

Oh mercifully grant unto us, not only to welcome Thee in joyful words of praise, but to place all which we have at thy service, according as it is needed for thy kingdom ; and in everything let us know and follow in this our day, the things which belong to our peace. Let them not be hid from our eyes, but let us walk in the light while we have the light ; and knowing now the time of our visitation, may we take up our cross and confess thy name before the world.

O gracious Father, mercifully by thine own Spirit draw all our souls unto Christ, that we may have life ; that we may be taught by him, trust in his atonement, obey his commands, and rejoice in his grace and love. Give our children to know Thee, love Thee, and welcome Thee, even now, as in the temple of old the children cried, Hosanna to the Son of David : and still do Thou perfect praise out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.

Grant that we may ever be looking for that promised time, when our Saviour shall come again in the glory of his Father. Oh hasten the day when thy people Israel shall see the Son of man, sitting on the right hand of power, coming in the clouds of heaven, and shall then nationally and with one voice join in saying, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hasten the time when they shall look on Him whom they have pierced, and mourn. Hasten the day when all men shall be drawn to Christ, and the Lord shall be King over all the earth ; when there shall be one Lord, and his name one. Hear us, O our Father, and thus glorify thy Son Jesus throughout the world, for his name's sake.

TUESDAY MORNING.

SINS OF THE GENTILE CHURCHES CONFESSED, AND PRAYER FOR CLEANSING.

O Lord Jesus Christ, once crucified for us, and now our exalted Prince and Saviour, who hast planted us as fig-trees in thy vineyard, and lookest for fruit, and if Thou findest none year after year, mayest justly sentence us to perpetual barrenness, pardon us and spare us who deserve thy righteous wrath. Thou didst not spare the people of Israel, who refused and rejected Thee, and denied the Holy One and the Just, and killed Thee, the Prince of Life, in their day of visitation; and then repented not, but refused thy Gospel; yet we beseech Thee look in mercy upon us, and grant us in this our day of grace true repentance and remission of our sins.

We Gentile Christians, like thy people Israel, have very far revolted from Thee, and fallen away by apostacy and unbelief. We mourn before Thee the sad condition, not only of the Eastern churches and of the Roman churches, but also of thy Reformed churches throughout the earth. We mourn that thy churches have not taken warning by thy past judgments on Israel, nor by the woes already poured out on ancient Christian churches. They have not repented, and given Thee glory. Have mercy, have mercy upon us a sinful nation, a seed of evil-doers, and children that are corrupters. Give us grace to wash and be made clean in that fountain which Thou hast opened for sin and uncleanness; to cease to do evil and learn to do well; to seek judgment, to relieve the oppressed, to judge the fatherless, and plead for the widow. Make thy churches everywhere watchful; and strengthen the things which remain and are ready to die; and cause us to remember how we have received and heard, and hold fast and repent; lest Thou come on us as a thief, and find us all ignorant of thy coming, and unprepared for it.

Cleanse thy spiritual Temple, O Jesus, throughout the

world. Cast out of it, and cast out of our hearts, all worldliness, love of money, and every thing which would defile and pollute what Thou hast claimed for thyself. Baptized in thy name and consecrated to thy service, keep us pure for Thee, and preserve us from seeking to join together the service of God and the service of Mammon.

Oh let thy love, Thou precious Saviour, constrain us to surrender ourselves wholly to Thee. Seeing Thou didst die for us all, and we all died in Thee, grant that we who live may no longer live to ourselves, but unto Thee who didst die for us and rise again. Hear us, for thy name's sake.

TUESDAY EVENING.

FOR GRACE TO HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who before thy crucifixion knewest all things which should befal Thee at Jerusalem, and yet, with constant mind, didst go before thy disciples, straitened till thy suffering was all accomplished, make us willing to go through our lighter sufferings for thy sake ; and let us, by thy grace, never shrink from the wrath and reproach of man for Thee, but willingly endure it for thy sake.

Blessed Redeemer, make us more and more like thyself. O Lord God, so help us that we may never be confounded, but may set our face as a flint against all that is sinful, and let us never be ashamed of thy gospel as the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, both Jew and Gentile.

What thanks, what eternal thanks we owe unto Thee for thy patient, enduring, and untiring zeal ! O Thou once tempted tried, suffering, and dying Lord, now reigning in glory, all praise be unto Thee, that nothing stopped Thee in thy course of persevering and self-sacrificing love, till Thou hadst made a complete and finished satisfaction for all our sins in thy death on the cross. All glory be to

thy holy name. And let not all this costly love be received by us in vain. May we know the power of thy resurrection and the fellowship of thy sufferings. Let us ever remember that we are called to do well, and to suffer for it, and take it patiently, and that this is acceptable unto God; because Thou, O Christ, hast also suffered for us, leaving us an example that we should follow in thy steps. Let us then ever arm ourselves with the same mind, and live no longer the rest of our time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but always live to the will of God, glorifying him in our body and in our spirit, which are HIS.

Give us all grace to look forward to that day when the glory of Christ shall be revealed. Let us, in the prospect of that glory, whenever we are partakers of thy sufferings, be glad with exceeding joy, and commit the keeping of our souls unto Thee our God, in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator, and thus may many, very many around us, be won by our good conversation.

O God of all grace, who hast called us unto thy eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make us perfect, stablish, strengthen and settle us. To Thee be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

FOR GRACE TO RECEIVE THE INSTRUCTIONS OF CHRIST.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who, as thy days on earth came nearer to their close, didst more and more abound in full instruction and labours of love, grant we pray Thee, that we also, feeling the shortness of our time in this world, may continually abound more in thy love towards one another and toward all men, and be sincere and without offence till the day of thy coming, being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Thee, to the praise and glory of God.

By thy wisdom in answering thy enemies, let us learn to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. Let us see

that it is worse to promise and not to perform, than to fail in promising, but afterward to repent and obey. Oh hereafter let us be found among the penitent and obedient; gladly accepting thy gracious invitations, and yielding cheerful obedience to all thy holy commands.

O Lord Jesus, who hast planted with such care a vineyard among us Gentiles, and hast so often found us refusing to render Thee the fruit in its season, at length dispose us gladly to yield unto Thee, the rightful Lord, the fruit which is so justly thine own, lest we perish in our wickedness. Make us henceforth fruitful in every good word and work.

O Lord, mercifully look upon the multitudes destitute of the blessings of that glorious feast of thy love in the gospel which Thou hast provided. Send forth faithful servants in increasing numbers to invite, and with urgent entreaty compel men to come in, that the marriage-supper of the Lamb may be furnished with happy guests. And Oh let none of us refuse the wedding-garment which Thou hast ready for us, but be clothed with thy righteousness and sanctified by thy spirit, and be admitted at last to stand before Thee.

Give us grace also here to render to all their dues, giving unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and unto God the things which are God's; and hereafter let us be found among the children of God and the children of the resurrection, who shall rise from the dead, and be counted worthy to obtain the world to come, who die no more, and are equal to the angels which are in heaven.

Hear us, O our Father, for our Redeemer's sake.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

FOR GRACE TO KEEP THE LAW, AND FOR PRESERVATION FROM APOSTACY.

O Lord, what more couldest Thou have done than Thou hast done to encourage sinners to come unto Thee! Thou

hast declared that Thou art rich unto all that call upon Thee. Thou hast promised that Thou wilt give good things to them that ask Thee. Thou hast promised that unto him which hath shall be given, so that every blessing which we have is an earnest that Thou wilt give fuller blessings still. And yet more, as if to silence every doubt the Son of God disdained not to become a little child, to suffer, bleed, and die for us. He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities. He ever liveth to make intercession for us: with boldness then would we come to thy throne of grace, to obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

O our gracious Redeemer, who hast told us that the great commandment of the law is, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and with all thy strength; and that the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself—we beseech Thee to write these thy great commandments distinctly and deeply in our hearts, and grant that they may daily govern our lives.

Give unto us also a clear and distinct discernment of that great mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh. Bestow upon us a lively faith in Thee, O Jesus, our Lord, as made of the seed of David after the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power, perfect God and perfect man in one Christ, our glorious and complete Redeemer.

May we ever walk humbly with Thee, and let us not desire the honour that cometh from man, nor the praise of man, but may we find praise of Thee. Let our bounty be according to our means in thy sight, and not in man's. O Jesus, give us so to act that Thou who didst approve the widow's mite, mayest approve our gifts to the Divine treasury.

O deliver us and our church, and thy Gentile churches at large, from that awful hypocrisy and wickedness which brought upon the Jews, even from Thee, O Thou mild and gracious but most holy Redeemer, those tremendous woes threatened in thy last public warning. Let the Gentile

churches everywhere see that they stand only by faith, and be preserved from high-mindedness, and fear Thee.

Especially may the fulfilled threatening of the destruction of Jerusalem, and its treading-down by the Gentiles for so many centuries, till the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled, now in these last days deeply impress all the Gentile churches with the fearful dangers of Apostacy. O help us to discern the vast importance of watching and praying, as we know not the time of thy coming again. O Lord, make us ready. O Lord, preserve us from saying, My Lord delayeth his coming. Give us grace to be like the wise virgins, with oil in our vessels, and our lamps trimmed and our lights burning, and like the diligent servant, improving the talents given to us. Make us like the righteous, abounding in all kinds of works of love, that we may be approved of Thee in that day, enter into thy glory, and inherit thy kingdom with thy saints for ever. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

TO FOLLOW THE HUMILITY OF CHRIST, AND TO BELIEVE IN HIM.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we heartily thank Thee that Thou didst not spare thy only-begotten Son, but has delivered him up for us all, that he might bear our sins in his own body on the tree, and atone for our guilt, We bless Thee especially that as on this day he appointed for his church that blessed Supper, in which he feeds us with his holy body, and gives us his precious blood to drink. We pray Thee to preserve ever in us true faith in this thy great love, and grant us thy grace that we may ever so use the holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, that it may be a mighty remedy to our souls, a strengthening of our feeble faith, and a certain comfort and defence against all the assaults of the devil,

sin, and death, through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord Jesus, who having loved thine own which were in the world, didst love them to the end, help us evermore to confide in Thee, and fill us with love, We bless Thee, O Jesus, that knowing that the Father hath given all things into thy hand, and that Thou camest from God, and wert going to God, Thou didst condescend before thy last sufferings to lay aside thy garments, and gird thyself and wash the feet of thy disciples. What love, what thanks we owe Thee, for all thy humiliation of thyself for us sinners! Thou art the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. Oh make us clean every whit from all the stains and pollutions of our sins; and while we call Thee Lord and Master, give us grace to follow thy example, and to show to others the love which Thou hast shown to us. Let us not only know these things, but attain the higher happiness of doing them.

O Lord, guard us by the dreadful apostacy of Judas, by the temporary fall of Peter, and by the forsaking of thy other Apostles, from any falling away from Thee. Give us to know our weakness, and our entire insufficiency of ourselves to stand; and to keep close to Thee, and wholly trust in Thee, and in Thee alone. Let us be, among our brethren, as the younger and those who serve, and not as the chief and the greatest. Give unto us true faith in thyself, and so keep us from a troubled heart. Let us look to the mansions in our Father's house as our true and eternal home: and now give us abundantly thy Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to strengthen us for duties here, and make us meet for the inheritance of the saints in light. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST.*

O holy and gracious Lord Jesus Christ, we give Thee

* From Ardnt.

most humble and hearty thanks for the deep and anxious sorrow wherewith thy soul was afflicted for our sake, even unto death. Hereby Thou hast removed from us everlasting grief and sorrow, and purchased for us eternal joy and happiness.

We thank Thee for thy humble falling down in Gethsemane before thy Heavenly Father, thereby to procure for us his fatherly grace and favour, and to keep our faces from everlasting shame and confusion.

We thank Thee for thy holy prayer and obedience, wherein Thou didst entirely offer up thy will to thy Father, saying, Not my will, but thine, be done ; thereby to make atonement for the evil committed by our own will ; to heal its various disorders, and to sanctify us according to the will of God.

We thank Thee for thy bitter agony, whereby Thou hast broken the power of death, subdued it, and taken away its sting.

We thank Thee for that dreadful sweat, which in drops of blood fell down to the ground, thereby to sanctify to us cold and anxious sweat in the hour of death, and to turn its pangs into quiet repose.

O Thou innocent and unspotted Lamb of God, we thank Thee for thy being taken, that we might be set free ; for thy being bound, that we might be released from sin ; for thy being falsely accused, that we might be absolved before the tribunal of God ; for thy being smitten in the face, that we might have peace.

O Thou meek and patient Lord, we thank Thee that for our sake Thou hast been mocked, to atone for our follies, and to become unto us eternal wisdom ; that Thou hast been spit upon, to deliver us from shame and confusion ; that Thou hast been blasphemed and insulted, to raise us to honour and glory ; that Thou hast been scourged, that we might be delivered from stripes hereafter, which we have justly deserved.

O Thou King and Lord of Glory, we thank Thee that for our sakes Thou wast in derision clothed with a purple

robe, to purchase for us the wedding-garment of honour: Thou wast crowned with thorns to gain for us a crown of righteousness: Thou wast mocked with a reed put into thy hand, that we might take thy kingdom and possess it for ever and ever: Thy holy head smitten, that we might have the palm in our hands and wear the crown of life in thy heavenly kingdom. Oh let all this astonishing grace and goodness lead every one of us to compunction, godly sorrow, and repentance not to be repented of. Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY MORNING.

TO LEARN THE LESSONS TAUGHT BY CHRIST'S PASSION.

O Thou Lord of lords and King of kings, whose visage was once so marred more than any man, and thy form more than the sons of men, who gavest thy back to the smiters and thy cheeks to them that plucked off the hair, and didst not hide thy face from shame and from spitting, help us to gaze and admire, to realize and be filled with love and humility while we commemorate thy humiliation. Thou didst become obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, for us and for our salvation; help us then now to come near to that scene of thy sufferings, and behold Thee, the Lamb of God, taking away the sin of the world.

Help us to view Thee in Gethsemane, where thy soul was exceeding sorrowful unto death, and hear thy repeated prayers and thy strong crying, that if possible the hour might pass from Thee, and to copy thy perfect resignation to the holy will of God. In thy agony, in thy dreadful sweat of great drops of blood, help us to see the costly price of our redemption, the inexpressible evil of sin, and the unsearchable fulness of thy love. Oh give us, under our lighter trials, to abound in prayer, lest we enter into temptation.

In the traitor Judas coming with the band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, let us see

the dreadful wickedness of the unconverted, of thy false disciples and thy open enemies ; and, in the vain repentance and self-destruction of Judas, may we learn the sad end of such transgression. In the forsaking of all thy disciples, of John who lay in thy bosom, of James who said he was able to drink of thy cup, and of Peter, who had so often promised never to deny Thee, let us discern what OUR hearts would be in the hour of temptation, and that the only safety of any one of us is in thy keeping us, so that our faith fail not.

Let us be warned by Peter's example, and be preserved from using carnal weapons of defence ; in the darkest seasons have entire confidence in the infinite faithfulness of thy heavenly Father, and full assurance of the fulfilment of all thy word : and guard us by Peter's awful fall from presumption, from associating with the ungodly, and from being ashamed of Thee and denying Thee. O Lord, hold us up, that we may be safe.

In thy open confession, O Christ, before the High Priest, let us learn to speak the truth, though we should have to lay down life itself for it, and let us not be surprised if we have to suffer for truth itself. Teach us to view Thee, O Jesus, brought before the Roman governor Pontius Pilate, and there witnessing the good confession, that Thou art the King of the Jews, and that thy kingdom is not of this world, but a heavenly kingdom ; and give us grace to belong to that kingdom, and willingly to suffer for it, that we may reign with Thee for ever.

O deliver us from that blindness of heart which prefers a robber to him who is the desire of all nations, chief among ten thousand, and altogether lovely. O preserve us from the dreadful guilt of despising and rejecting our only Saviour, and being guilty of the body and blood of Christ.

And help us to see in thy crown of thorns the way opened for our wearing the crown of life ; in thy stripes, our healing ; in thy wounds, our transgressions ; in thy bruises, our iniquities ; in thy chastisement, our peace ;

thyself who knewest no sin made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Thee.

Help us to learn all the lessons taught us by thy patience and meekness. As Thou—like as a lamb before its shearers is dumb—openedst not thy mouth, so grant that we, when reviled, may not revile again, and when suffering may not threaten, but may in patience possess our souls, and commit ourselves to Thee.

Help us to view in lively faith and love unutterable, Thee, our Divine Redeemer hanging on the tree; thy head so full of bruises, crowned with thorns, thy back wounded with stripes, thy hands and feet pierced by iron nails, and suspended between two thieves. Oh praise without ceasing be to Thee, who hast become a curse for us, that we might be redeemed from the curse of the law: who wast numbered with transgressors, that we might be numbered with saints; who didst shed thy precious blood and die, that all our guilt might be removed, and we might live for ever.

O Jesus, teach us all the wonderful lessons here to be learned, of the dreadful evil of sin; of the sure, intense, and full love of God; of the unspeakable value of our souls; of the completeness of our salvation; and of the need of fleeing now to Thee who hast thus delivered us from the wrath to come. All glory be to Thee for ever.

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE DEATH OF CHRIST.*

O Thou, whose love has a height, and depth, and breadth, and length which pass our knowledge, and are unsearchable, help us to look unto Thee as the Author and Finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Thee in our salvation, hast endured the cross, despising the shame.

O Thou meek, kind, gracious Lord, we thank Thee, who didst condescend to allow thyself to be presented to the

* From Ardnt.

compassion of thy people by Pilate, saying, "Behold the man,"—undergoing this, in pity and love to us, that our miserable condition might be pitied, for thy sake, by thy heavenly Father. Thou, O tender and loving Saviour, wast rejected and denied by thy people, to be made the corner-stone of the Church of true believers. Thou wast sentenced unto death for our sake, to deliver us from the sentence of eternal death and damnation.

O Thou most humble and righteous servant of God, Thou most obedient Son of thy heavenly Father, we thank Thee that Thou thyself didst cheerfully bear thy cross to Golgotha, to teach us thereby that we also should take our cross willingly, and follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest. We thank Thee for thy being nailed to the cross, thereby to be made a sacrifice for our sins. We thank Thee for thy being crucified between two thieves and numbered with the transgressors; for Thou hadst done no evil, nor was any guile ever found in thy mouth, yet hast Thou borne the iniquity of others, to be our propitiation by thine own innocence. We thank Thee for the horrid revilings and blasphemies which Thou hast endured for us on the cross, to free us thereby from everlasting shame and confusion.

O Thou blessed of the Lord, we thank Thee for thy being made a curse on the tree, that all nations of the earth might in Thee be blessed. Thou art the fairest among the children of men, the only one without sin: and yet Thou becamest a worm and wast made sin for us, that we might be made fair and acceptable unto God, even the righteousness of God in Thee. Thou hast condescended to become the most despicable among men, in order to render us great and glorious. Thou didst hang on the cross without the least help or comfort, in order to purchase for us everlasting joy and comfort. Thou wast stripped of thy clothing and didst hang naked and bleeding till Thou didst expire on the tree; that we might be clothed with the garment of salvation and the robe of righteousness for ever on thy throne, in thy quickly coming kingdom and glory.

O Thou eternal High Priest, our only Mediator, we thank Thee for thy prayer offered up on the cross in our behalf, and for the strong cries and tears poured out before thy heavenly Father. We thank Thee for thy comfortable word to the penitent thief—"To-day thou shalt be with me in Paradise," opening thereby the gate of paradise to us poor and penitent sinners. We thank Thee for the great distress of soul which drew from Thee these words—My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me? that we might have a sure comfort in our trials, that we shall not finally be forsaken of God.

We thank Thee for Thy holy thirst on the cross, and for thy tasting gall and vinegar; for Thou hast redeemed us from eternal thirst and from the bitterness of hell. We thank Thee for that comfortable word—"It is finished," that we might learn that sin is now destroyed—God is now reconciled—the scripture fulfilled—and our eternal redemption wrought out and purchased. We thank Thee for Thy last words spoken on the cross, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit," and for thy holy death, whereby all our sins are atoned for, life is restored for us and all believing souls are committed in Christ into the hands of the heavenly Father.

O blessed Jesus, all that thou didst upon earth Thou didst for us; thy life is ours—thy death is ours; let us die to sin—crucify the flesh with its affections—be crucified to the world, and the world to us—and rise with Thee to a new, holy, and heavenly life here, and live with Thee for ever in the glory to come.

SATURDAY MORNING.

PRAISE FOR THE BURIAL OF CHRIST.

Almighty and everlasting God, who after thine only-begotten Son had, by his sufferings and death for us, wrought out our eternal redemption, didst please that he should enter the rest of the grave, and, like his brethren be gathered unto his fathers after the flesh, we pray Thee

also to grant, that, by his death, our lusts may be crucified, and our hearts quieted from guilt ; that we may now cease in this life from all sinful works, and, by holy quietness from evil, and confidence in thy love, be daily strengthened in Thee. We beseech Thee also so to assist us, that when our hour of departure shall come, we may blissfully fall asleep in Thee, and that our spirit may enter thy peace, while our body, in the rest of the grave, awaits the joyful resurrection unto everlasting life, through thy dear Son, our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who, after blotting out the handwriting of ordinances which was against us, and taking it out of the way, and nailing it to thy cross, didst spoil principalities and powers, and make a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it, we thank Thee for that wonderful deliverance of our souls from our worst enemies. We also bless Thee, that, for our further comfort, after giving up the ghost, Thou didst descend into hell, and abide for a season in the lower regions of the earth, and the place of departed spirits, leading captivity captive. Thus Thou didst sanctify the state of death to thy people, giving us full assurance that Thou didst undergo all the condition of the dead. We bless Thee also that Thou dost reveal to us that Thou hast the keys of death and hell, and art Lord of all, and that at Thy name every knee must bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and that every tongue shall confess that Thou art Lord, to the glory of God the Father. All glory, praise, and adoration be unto Thee, who, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit, didst go and preach unto the spirits in prison. All glory, praise, and adoration be to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, that thy soul was not left in hell, nor did the Holy one see corruption ; and as Christ our Head was shown the path of life, rose from the dead, entered that presence where is fulness of joy, and became the first fruits of them that slept ; so, O heavenly Father, deliver us from the

* From Bunsen's Liturgy for Passion Week, in German.

fear of death, and enable us to count life ours and death ours, and follow him into life everlasting. Let us willingly partake of the sufferings of the present time, that we may rise to partake with him of the glory to be revealed in us. Hear us, for his name's sake.

SATURDAY EVENING.

EASTER EVE.

FOR DELIVERANCE FROM FEAR OF DEATH, AND CONFIDENCE IN TIME OF DARKNESS.

O Lord Jesus, our rest and our life, we thank Thee, O Lamb of God, that Thou hast taken away the sins of the world, and after thy death didst enter the grave and wast buried, that we might be delivered from the fear of death and the grave, and that all their sting and curse might be taken away and for ever removed from us. We bless Thee that Thou by thy sufferings, rest in the grave, and resurrection, hast won for us an everlasting-Sabbath. Help us, gracious Lord, that we may know and find thy grave to be the tomb of all our sins. Let us be wholly delivered from the fear of the grave by thy burial in it, and willingly, if Thou call us thereto, sleep in it as in a chamber of rest for thy saints. Give us to know that Thou, by thy holy grave, hast consecrated and made holy all the graves of thy saints, till the glorious morning of the resurrection awaken our sleeping dust to partake of thy heavenly and everlasting kingdom. Praised be Thou for ever.*

Grant, O Lord, that as we are baptized into the death of thy blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, we may be buried with him: and that through the grave and gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection, for his merits who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.†

* From Bunsen's Liturgy for the Passion Week, in German.
† Collect for the day.

O Lord, who didst so overrule the hatred of the chief priests, that, in their case to make sure the sepulchre of Jesus against his resurrection, they did but call attention to the wonderful truth and furnish the most unexceptionable witness to its reality, help us in all the present triumphing of the wicked to have perfect confidence in Thee. However thy truth may be opposed, give us to know that it must ultimately be victorious, and in the darkest season to repose in Thee with perfect peace. Number us all among the true disciples of Christ, who after preparing spices and ointments, rested on the Sabbath, according to thy commandment, and in their early hasting to the tomb received the assurance of the blessed fact, of his being risen from the dead. So let us show all love to our Saviour and his cause, in its deepest humiliation, keep all thy commandments, and at length be made joyful in resurrection-glory, through Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT.

FOR A SPIRIT OF TRUE REPENTANCE.

O exalted Prince and Saviour Jesus Christ, who knewest no sin, but was made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Thee, we believe thy promise, that where two or three are gathered in thy name, there Thou art in the midst of them ; and we desire, as in thy presence, to cast ourselves at thy feet, and bless Thee from the heart for all thy grace to us sinners.

For our sakes Thou, who wast in the form of God, madest thyself of no reputation, and tookest upon Thee the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men, and didst humble thyself and become obedient to death, even the death of the cross! For ever blessed be Thou for all this grace to us sinners.

For our sakes, O blessed Lord, Thou didst fast forty days and forty nights ; Thou wast tempted of Satan, and didst offer up strong crying and tears for our sakes ; Thou

didst go through darkness and trouble, a bitter agony and a bloody sweat, and wast numbered with the transgressors, that we might be accounted righteous. Oh ! what thanks do we owe to Thee for thy great redemption ! We believe that Thou wast wounded for our transgressions, that Thou wast bruised for our iniquities, that the chastisement of our peace was upon Thee, and that by thy stripes we are healed. Oh then give us to look unto Thee whom, by our sins, we have pierced, and mourn, and be in bitterness for them. Lord Jesus, let us be grieved at heart for our iniquities and rebellions against so much love, and mourn with that godly sorrow which works repentance unto salvation. We entreat Thee, O our King and Saviour, give unto us true repentance and full remission of sins.

O holy and Almighty Father, who searchest the hearts and triest the reins, deliver us from a mere outside formal show of repentance. Let not our fasting and humiliation be before men, to be seen of them, lest we have no reward in heaven ; but let our fasting and humiliation be before Thee—inward and sincere, deep and true. O Lord, give us that broken and contrite heart, that mourning for sin, that real hatred of sin, that self-loathing and self-abhorrence, which Thou approvest and will accept. May we have a new heart and a new spirit, hating every thing that is evil, and delighting in all that is good, and may we walk in newness of life.

Let the Holy Ghost really dwell in us and uphold us in thy ways ; he himself convincing us of sin, and especially of the sin of unbelief and neglecting the salvation of Jesus.

And, O Lord, we beseech Thee to preserve us from a heartless indifference to appointed seasons and means of grace. Thou hast told us to submit ourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, and to submit ourselves one to another in the fear of God : help us in this spirit to use the season of Lent, appointed by our church for our soul's humiliation before Thee. Let us give more

time to prayer, and self-examination, and the reading of thy word. Remembering the nature of the fast which Thou hast chosen, let us loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, let the oppressed go free, deal our bread to the hungry, bring the cast-out poor to our house, cover the naked, and not hide ourselves from those who are our flesh.

We ask the same grace and blessing for thy church and our fellow-Christians; for our country, and the whole family of man. Let not this season be abused to foster the spirit of bondage and self-righteousness on the one hand, nor neglected and disregarded in a worldly, careless spirit; but be everywhere made profitable by a due improvement of it, to the benefit of immortal souls, through Jesus our Redeemer.

EASTER DAY.

MORNING PRAYER.

We will give thanks unto the Lord with our whole heart, secretly, among the faithful, and in the congregation. The stone which the builders refused is become the head-stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord hath made—we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Almighty Father, who didst not leave thy Holy One to see corruption, but hast fulfilled all thy promises in raising up thy Son Jesus from the dead, no more to see corruption, and hast exalted him by thy right hand to be both Lord and Christ, all praise, all glory be to thy holy name. Though he was crucified through weakness, we bless Thee and magnify thy holy name that he yet lives by thy power, our glorious Redeemer, our everlasting King, our forerunner and head, the first-fruits of them that sleep, the first-begotten from the dead.

Merciful God, having raised up thy Son Jesus, send him also to bless us in turning away every one of us from

our iniquities. Oh grant that all our souls may be quickened, forgiven, justified, and for ever blessed, through the glorious resurrection of Christ Jesus. Let the Spirit of him who raised up Jesus from the dead, dwell in us ; and so give us a sure token that he who raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken our mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in us. Give us to know that he who raised up our Lord Jesus, will raise us up also by Jesus, and present us, with thy whole Church, faultless before the presence of thy glory with exceeding joy.

We thank Thee that he who was thus exalted by thy right hand, has received of Thee for us the promise of the Holy Ghost: enrich then each one of our souls with the indwelling of that Divine Spirit. [Especially at thy table shed his grace abundantly upon us and all our fellow-communicants.] Let us find by happy experience that it was expedient for us that Christ should suffer and die, rise again and go away from us, that the Comforter might indeed be sent down from heaven. Oh may he come and dwell in us as our Teacher and our Guide, our daily upholder, strength and sanctifier.

Give unto us all the peace and hope, joy and comfort, holiness and strength, which flow from the blessed fact which we this day commemorate. While the cross of Christ expels from our minds all foolish, trifling thoughts, let the resurrection of Christ deliver us from all gloomy and desponding thoughts, and give us Christian cheerfulness and holy gladness. Grant us to know that Jesus, who was delivered for our offences, was raised again for our justification, and that righteousness shall be imputed unto us, if we believe on Thee who hath raised him up again. Assure us that being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Give us to know that if when we were enemies we were reconciled, to Thee by his death, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. Let us discern distinctly that Christ is the first-fruits of them that slept, and that by him has come our resurrection ; and as in Adam all die, so also in

Christ shall all be made alive. And Oh grant to every one of us to count all things else as loss, if we may but win Christ and be found in him : know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable to his death, and so attain to the resurrection of the dead.

Let our perception of our being buried with Christ in baptism, and risen with him through faith in the operation of God, and of our quickening together with him, be lively and experimental. Let the forgiveness of all our trespasses, and the blotting out of the handwriting of ordinances against us, and the nailing it to his cross, and his spoiling there of the principalities and powers of darkness, be made distinctly manifest to our souls. And thus grant that being risen with Christ we may ever seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at thy right hand : not setting our affections on things on the earth, but on things above. Oh make us dead to sin and the world, and let our life be hid with Chirst in Thee ; that so when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, we may hear his voice with joy, welcome his coming, and appear with him in glory. God Almighty grant it, for Jesus Christ's sake.

EVENING PRAYER.

We will give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endureth for ever. He has ransomed us from the power of the grave. He hath redeemed us from death, and has put into our mouths a new song of triumph. O death ! where is thy sting ? O grave ! where is thy victory ? Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

O blessed Jesus, who art the resurrection and the life, in whom whosoever believeth, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Thee shall never die ; increase our faith in this most comforting truth. Enable us with the whole heart to believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God, who hast

died for us and risen again, and art now seated at the right hand of the Father, ever living as our Advocate, and appearing in heaven for us.

Give us grace to remember that Thou, O Jesus, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead, redeeming our nature from the grave. Herein give us to discern the fulfilment of prophecy—the glorifying of God our Father—the sure foundation laid for our hope of resurrection—our security from condemnation—and the certainty of our justification by faith in Thee. O Jesus, help us to realize by thy resurrection all thy mediatorial offices, as our Prophet, Priest, and King—the satisfaction of Divine justice — the full propitiation made for our sins — and the sure testimony of thy Divine nature as the Son of God.

O merciful Father, grant that as we are buried with Christ by baptism unto death, even as Christ was raised up from the dead by thy glory, we also may now walk in newness of life : let us be planted together, both in the likeness of his death, and also in the likeness of his resurrection. Oh grant us thus to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto Thee, our God, through Jesus Christ our Lord ; and to yield ourselves unto Thee as those who are alive from the dead, and our members as instruments of righteousness unto Thee. Thus by the resurrection of Jesus let us attain more and more of spiritual life and blessedness, and be ourselves raised up together with him, and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Let not then the blessed doctrine of this day be regarded by us, only as a yearly commemoration of a great and all-important event ; but let it be a living principle of a holy life, daily remembered by us, and daily leading us to set our affections on things above. Give us firm and unshaken confidence in it as an unquestionable fact, most certainly assured to us, by faithful witnesses, and the Holy Ghost sent down from Heaven, and the triumphant progress of thy gospel, and its triumph over all its enemies. Give us to believe it with the heart, and joyfully to embrace the

blessed truth as the sure pledge and earnest of our own resurrection.

And O Almighty Father, who hast done such mighty works of love for us, thy sinful and rebellious creatures, fill our souls with holy gratitude, devout admiration, and full purposes of heart to live unto him who died for us and rose again. Strengthen mightily hereby our faith and hope in Thee. Let us joyfully say with thy apostle, Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? it is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather that is risen again, who is even at thy right hand, who also maketh intercession for us.

Give us thus full confidence, that nothing shall separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Let this love ever dwell in us, and fill our whole soul with love to God and man. Strengthen us thus to fulfil our baptismal and communion vows and resolutions, and to be more than conquerors over all trials, difficulties, and temptations in life and in death, through him that loved us, till the last trumpet summon us in glorified resurrection-bodies, to meet the Lord in the air and be with him for ever. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

ASCENSION DAY, AND THE SUNDAY AFTER.

We thank Thee, O our heavenly Father, that Thou hast with thine own right hand exalted thy only-begotten Son in our very nature, and seated him on thy throne in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come. Glory be to Thee who hast put all things under his feet, and hast given him to be head over all things to his church.

We praise and bless thy holy name, that all power in heaven and earth being given to him, he has ascended on high, and led captivity captive, and received gifts for us, thy rebellious creatures, that Thou, O Lord God, mightest dwell among us. We thank Thee, that Jesus is King of

kings and Lord of lords, and must reign till he has put all enemies under his feet.

We come now as suppliants to thy throne of grace, for those very gifts which Jesus is exalted to bestow. Oh grant us very largely thy Holy Spirit. Oh grant unto us repentance and remission of sins. Oh grant unto thy church in increasing numbers, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Let our affections continually thither ascend whither Christ has gone before us. Let our conversation be in heaven, where Christ sitteth at thy right hand. According to the gracious promise made at his ascension, assure our hearts that the same Jesus, which was taken up from his disciples, will so come again from heaven in like manner as he was seen to go up thither. Oh give us grace to be looking for his coming from thence, and to have the assured hope, that when he appears we shall be like him, and that he will change our vile body, and fashion it like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Help us to live as those having such a blessed hope. Let our whole mind and spirit be pure and heavenly: wean us from the earth: let our treasure be in heaven; let us purify ourselves as Jesus is pure. Give us grace to crucify the flesh with its affections; and to mortify and subdue the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. Fill us with love to thyself, O heavenly Father, and enable us to walk as it becometh the children of God and the heirs of a heavenly kingdom.

Oh hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

WHIT-SUNDAY.

MORNING PRAYER.

O Lord our God, who art gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, who dealest wondrously with thy people, we worship together at thy mercy-seat. Thou didst promise of old, "It shall come to pass in the last days, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh;" and on the day of Pentecost Thou didst fulfil thy promise on thy first disciples gathered together with one accord in one place; all glory be to thy holy name. We thank Thee that by the same Spirit they were enriched with the gift of tongues, and thy wonderful works were declared to men of different nations, and mighty signs and wonders were done in the name of thy holy Child Jesus, and thy church was enlarged, and the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul, praising God and having favour with all the people.

O Lord, we remember with joy and thanksgiving these wonders of thy grace, and the noble works which Thou didst in those days, and in the old time before them. O Lord, arise, help us also and deliver us for thy name's sake. Hast Thou not invited us also, Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain? Hast Thou not promised, I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring? Hast thou not testified, When the poor and needy seek water and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I, the Lord, will hear them, I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them, I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys, I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water? Fulfil we entreat thee, these most gracious promises at this time.

Behold, thy church now deeply needs this large outpouring of thy Spirit! Thine eye sees to what an awful extent there is a form of godliness while the power is

denied; and men have a name to live and are yet dead, and their works are not perfect before Thee. O Lord, heal our backslidings, and every where lead thy people with weeping and supplication, to seek thy face and turn unto Thee. Revive thy work in the midst of the days, and heal the many divisions and unite the hearts of thy people. Oh that the glowing love and the entire oneness of mind and of soul which marked thy first church at Jerusalem, may now be granted speedily to all the churches of Christ in every land, that all men may believe that Thou hast sent Jesus thy Son to be the Saviour of the world.

O Lord, everywhere revive the graces of thy people. Manifest thyself to them in the breaking of bread wherever this day they shall meet to commemorate thy death. Refresh and fructify all thy churches, and beautify the meek with salvation. May all the lovely fruits of the Spirit grow abundantly in the heart of every believer, even love, joy, peace, gentleness, goodness, meekness, long-suffering, faith, and temperance, to the glory of thy name, and the turning to Christ of innumerable precious souls. Thus add daily to thy church such as shall be saved.

And oh, hasten the return of that gracious Redeemer, the true David, in whose happy dominion there shall be showers of blessing, and the living waters shall go forth from Jerusalem, at all seasons; and the Lord shall be king over all the earth, and there shall be one Lord and his name one. Give the King thy judgments, and the King's Son thy righteousness, that he may come down like rain upon the mown grass, and as showers that water the earth. Hasten that glorious time when the righteous shall flourish, and there shall be abundance of enduring peace, and all kings shall fall down before our Saviour, and all nations shall serve him.

Go with us now to thy house of prayer. Assist thy ministers with special unction from the Holy One, and give us a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things, and blessed be his glorious name for ever, and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.

We thank Thee, O ascended Lord and Saviour Jesus, that, having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, thou didst so wondrously, as on this day, fill thy disciples with the blessed gift; baptizing them with the Holy Ghost, and enabling them to go forth as thy ambassadors to all nations, speaking with new tongues, and proclaiming far and wide that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.

We bless Thee that thus at length the good tidings of great joy were published on our shores, and God gave testimony to the word of his grace, and we Gentiles of the British Isles were grafted into thy church, and became partakers of the heavenly gift: all praise, all glory be to Thee.

O God our Father, how great are our privileges! that Thou shouldest thus bring us near to thyself, that we might be builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit: and that we might receive the adoption of sons, and with that adoption the Spirit of thy Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father! all glory be to Thee. And yet farther, for thy promises, that if we be children, then are we heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; suffering with him here, that we may also be glorified together: for these inestimable mercies all adoration, thanksgiving, and praise be unto Thee.

We beseech Thee, merciful Father, suffer us not to receive this grace in vain. Now in the accepted time, now in the day of salvation, work in us to will and to do of thy good pleasure, that we may work out our own salvation with fear and with trembling. Give us daily to increase in thy manifold gifts of grace. To our Divine Redeemer Thou gavest not the Spirit by measure: it pleased

Thee that in him all fulness should dwell, and that of his fulness all we should receive. As the Spirit of the Lord then rested upon him, so impart thy Spirit to every one of us; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord, and make us also of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord. Give unto us especially the spirit of prayer, so that we may find the Spirit helping our infirmities, and enabling us daily to pray in the Holy Ghost.

Thus, strengthened with might by thy Spirit in the inner man, make us valiant for the truth, and bold in our God to speak thy gospel. Give us that wisdom which cometh from above; which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy, and of good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

And Oh! our gracious God, who hast so faithfully promised to pour out of thy Spirit upon all flesh, and yet for this wilt be inquired of by us, we beseech Thee to fill our gracious sovereign the Queen, and all in authority over us, with thy Spirit, and give them an understanding heart to judge thy people, and to go in the path of thy commandments. Give unto our bishops, priests, and deacons, and all congregations committed to them, grace, mercy, and peace; and make them faithful stewards of thy mysteries, that thy word may have free course and be glorified. Speedily descend on Israel as the rain, as the latter and former rain upon the earth. Pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and supplication, that they may look unto Jesus whom they have pierced, and mourn for him. Oh may they speedily become the holy people, and the righteous nation keeping the truth; O Lord God, quickly cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts this day be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer.

TRINITY SUNDAY.

MORNING PRAYER.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which wast, and art, and art to come, with deep reverence and abasement would we come into thy presence, through Jesus having access by one Spirit unto the Father. Oh help us now by faith to behold Thee sitting on thy throne, high and lifted up in the heavens, while seraphim and cherubim cover their faces with their wings, and cry one to another day and night, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of his glory. Thou art worthy to receive glory and honour and power, for Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

How graciously hast Thou dealt with us! By nature born in sin and the children of wrath, we have been brought into thy household the church, and baptized into that wonderful name of our God, the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, that we might from the beginning acquaint ourselves with God, and be at peace with him.

We bless Thee, O our God, that in revealing to us thy glory, Thou hast taught us that the Lord our God is one Lord, and that Thou art God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. We bless Thee that Thou hast discovered thyself to us, for our unspeakable comfort, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three persons and one God, fulfilling a work of grace and love for our salvation. Thanks be unto Thee that we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in thy Son Jesus Christ, and that this is the true God and eternal life. O grant us grace to keep ourselves from all idols.

O Lord, enable us to hold fast the profession of our faith, without wavering, seeing Thou art faithful who hast promised, and grant us to build up ourselves on our most holy

faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keeping ourselves in the love of God, and looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Give us grace to know this deep mystery of thy divine glory, as it is set before us in thy word ; not as a controversy to be disputed upon, but as revealed truth to be believed ; not as a speculative doctrine, but as a living truth, full of unction and power and blessedness—a fountain-head from which continually streams of mercy, grace, and peace are flowing. O Almighty and eternal God, grant unto us thy blessing, that thy grace, O our Lord Jesus Christ, thy love, O God our Father, and thy fellowship, O Holy Ghost the Comforter, may be with us and rest upon us, and make us a blessing to others continually.

Especially cause this knowledge of God and the Lord Jesus to shine in our hearts, who hope to commemorate our Saviour's death at his table.

We beseech Thee to look in tender pity upon the millions of our fallen race who are without God in the world. They have indeed gods many and lords many, yet they know not Thee the only true God, while they do service unto them which by nature are no gods, and offer sacrifice unto devils. But we know Thee, or rather, to thy name be the praise, are known of Thee, and we, therefore, as priests unto God would intercede for a world lying in darkness, and entreat Thee to cause the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God, to shine upon them.

Oh send forth the heralds of salvation to preach Christ Jesus throughout the world ; and do Thou who didst command the light to shine out of darkness, shine into the hearts of men, to give them the light of the knowledge of thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

Bless the ministers of thy word everywhere in preaching the faith of God's elect, and testifying the truth which is according to godliness. O let us and all the saints and faithful brethren in Christ Jesus, throughout the world, be filled with the knowledge of thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that we may walk worthy of the

Lord in all pleasing ; being fruitful unto every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of Thee our God, strengthened with all might, according to thy glorious power, till we be meet for the inheritance of the saints in light, and come to see Thee as Thou art, and to know as we are known. Hear us for Christ's sake.

EVENING PRAYER.

O our God, who has taught us that this is life eternal, to know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent, and that no man knoweth the things of God, but the Spirit of God ; reveal thyself to our souls by that blessed Spirit, who searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

O blessed Jesus, whom not having seen we love, in whom, though now we see Thee not, yet believing, we rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory, hear our prayer. Thou didst surely promise, I will pray the Father and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth ; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him. Fulfil thy gracious promise. Grant unto us to know the grace of thy Spirit in our happy experience, as dwelling with us and in us, and that Thou hast not left us comfortless, but dost come unto us.

O Holy Ghost, the Comforter, come and fulfil all thy gracious work in our souls : convince us of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment : guide us into all truth : show us things to come ; glorify Jesus to us, and in us, and by us ; reveal to us the fulness of his grace : show us that all that the Father hath is his ; and do Thou take of the things of Christ continually, and show them to us.

O our God, we would mourn before Thee our great ignorance of Thee, notwithstanding our innumerable advantages and the full display of thy glory in Christ Jesus. He that hath seen Jesus hath seen Thee, O Father ; for Thou art in Christ and Christ in Thee ; and yet how little

we know of Thee, our Father. We have been alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in us, and have turned back and forsaken Thee the fountain of living waters, and have hewn out unto ourselves broken cisterns that can hold no water. Take away all our iniquity, receive us graciously—love us freely. Behold we come unto Thee, for Thou art the Lord our God.

We would mourn before Thee for a world lying in wickedness, and perishing for lack of knowledge of Thee the true God. Thou yet sparest the wicked: thy goodness would yet lead them to repentance: Thou art long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But, O righteous Father, the world hath not known Thee, nor Jesus whom Thou hast sent. Everywhere then send forth speedily, before the day of thy wrath, the ambassadors of Christ to proclaim that all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ; and, everywhere let the word of reconciliation be proclaimed, and the ambassadors of Christ pray all men, as though Thou thyself didst beseech them, in Christ's stead, to be reconciled to Thee; and thus let multitudes, in this accepted time, be truly converted and saved. Oh let the gospel of the kingdom be preached to all nations, and the way of the Lord be prepared, and a waiting church be ready for his return. God of all grace, grant that at length the Gentiles may rejoice with thy people, and the knowledge of thy glory cover the earth even as the waters do the sea. Oh hear us according to the fulness of thy love, who art light and love, and who didst so love the world that Thou gavest thy only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. And now, unto the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, three persons in one God, be everlasting praise and glory. Amen.

EMBER WEEK.

FIRST PRAYER.—BEFORE ORDINATION.

O blessed Jesus, who didst love thy church and give thyself for it, and who didst purchase it with thine own blood, and after this, ascending to heaven, didst give apostles and prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying of the body of Christ, we beseech Thee continue still to raise up from age to age faithful watchmen and stewards of thy mysteries. Multiply, in our day, able ministers of the New Covenant; workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, who shall be examples to believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity.

And especially give to the bishops and pastors of thy flock a deep sense of the awful responsibility of appointing and ordaining those who are to serve Thee in the ministry, that not laying hands suddenly on any, they may be preserved from being partakers of other men's sin. O Holy Spirit, separate faithful and able men for the work of the ministry, and endow them with all heavenly gifts for their blessed office. Let the unction from the Holy One descend upon them, and make them wise to win souls, so that continually there may be added to thy church such as shall be saved.

We ask this, O heavenly Father, for our Redeemer's sake, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory now and evermore. Amen.

SECOND PRAYER.—AFTER ORDINATION.

O Thou Father of lights, with whom is no variableness nor shadow of turning, from whom is every good and every perfect gift, we earnestly unite in prayer for those ministers of thy word who have just been set apart for thy service. Give unto them heavenly wisdom—understanding in all

things—the word of knowledge—discerning of spirits—working faith—patient hope—laborious love—and abounding grace, according to the measure of the gift of Christ, that they may preach his unsearchable riches. Give them to follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness; and to be in all things a pattern of good works, in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, and sincerity. Preserve them from their special temptations, and let their speech and preaching ever be, not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power; so that the faith of those who hear them may not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God; and grant that a countless multitude may be their glory and joy in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming. Oh hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

Fixed Feasts, Fasts, and Seasons.

IN THE ORDER OF THE CALENDAR;

WITH THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND COLLECTS, AND REFERENCE TO THE EPISTLES AND GOSPELS, ON THE SAINTS' DAYS.

ON SAINTS' DAYS IN GENERAL.

O God our heavenly Father, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of all departed saints, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in him our God and Father, give us to learn the holy lessons which thy church this day sets before us, in calling to our remembrance saints departed this life, and resting with God, until they be raised in glory on the morning of the resurrection, when we too shall be joined with them. In hope of that glory, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and run with patience the race set before us, looking unto Jesus. Enable us, like thy saints of old, to conquer the world, and obtain a good report through faith. Give unto us the Spirit imparted unto them, that we may feel suffering for Thee, a privilege: and that we may know that unto thy privileged people it is given, not only to believe in thy name, but also to suffer for thy sake. Teach us to trace all the dealings of thy love with thy people for the last six thousand years; and to view the grace given them in times of trial, so that when the rage of the enemy was the greatest, thy

grace shone the brightest. Let us see what streams of mercy Thou hast poured upon them, and know that Thou art the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. Let every type and history show us something of the grace and beauty of our blessed Saviour. Thus help us to reap the benefits designed by the appointments of thy church, improve diligently all its ordinances, and, built on the foundation of apostles and prophets, form part of that glorious Temple of which Christ himself is the chief Corner-stone. Hear us for his sake. Amen.

CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST, JAN. 1.

Almighty God, who madest thy blessed Son to be circumcised, and obedient to the law for man, grant us the true circumcision of the Spirit, that our hearts and all our members being mortified from all worldly and carnal lusts, we may in all things obey thy blessed will, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Rom. iv. 8—14. *Gospel,* Luke ii. 15—21.

FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR.

MORNING PRAYER.

O everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, who from the beginning didst set the lights in the firmament of heaven to be for signs and for seasons, for days and for years, brought by thy goodness together in family worship at the beginning of another year, we would, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, present unto Thee unfeigned thanksgivings for all thy loving-kindnesses bestowed upon us.

When we look back on all thy dealings in the past year, what reason have to speak good of thy name, and to testify that Thou art good, that thy mercy is everlasting, and that thy truth endureth to all generations! How count-

less thy mercies have been to us, at home and abroad, in dangers and in difficulties—in providing for all our wants, and day by day, from week to week, and month to month, giving us all things richly to enjoy.

The same love, in deeper and fuller streams of goodness, we would see in the seasons of trials and afflictions through which we have passed. Thou hast called us in every thing to give thanks, and to glorify Thee in the fires. We would then especially see thy love in trials, and praise Thee for what has been humbling and painful in the past year. Thou hast taught us that by these things men live. Without these we should want the tokens of thy love and the means of fruitfulness. Help us to discern in them, not the penal judgments of a violated law, and avenging justice, but the fatherly chastisements of a tender Parent, having his mind fixed on our best good.

Help us to see the same love in our spiritual trials and conflicts. If Thou hast left us to walk in darkness, in perplexity, in fear, in trembling, and in temptation, and hast even given us proofs of what was in our heart by leaving us for a season to ourselves, oh help us to discern in all things thy wisdom and our own nothingness. Help us to see that the trial of our faith is more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, and that all things are ours, whether the ministers of thy church, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come : all are ours, and we are Christ's and Christ is God's, and evermore then let us glory in Thee alone.

Show us thy goodness and wisdom in what has been withheld, as well as in what has been given ; and raise us to full confidence of heart that Thou art love—love in every thing.

And now in this confidence we commit unto Thee all those things which are hidden from us in the future. We know not innumerable events which are before us ; we know not whether those now assembled together, shall at the close of this year assemble together again an unbroken

circle, and be the living, the living to praise Thee; but we commit all unto Thee, knowing who orders all our steps, who performeth all things for us: we know he is our reconciled Father in Christ Jesus; and, while humbled to the dust in the sense of our own past deep sinfulness, we cast all our care on Thee, in the assurance that Thou carest for us. In the full conviction of the uncertainty of life and the shortness of time, that the strong may be cut off, and the weak may be spared, and any of us here kneeling together may have to go through sickness, and sorrow, and danger, or may pass into thy immediate presence, we beseech Thee that Thou wouldest only give us the scriptural and sweet assurance that we love Thee, and are called according to thy purpose, that Thou wouldest teach us the certainty of thy word, that all things shall work together for our good, and then, come what may, we will delight in thy will, and rejoice in thy salvation.

But, O Lord, let us rise out of the contracted sphere of personal feeling, or even the delightful circle of family and social interests, into the fulness of thine own love, who wilt have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Oh pour out of the Spirit in these last days upon all flesh. Make this a year of large blessings to the whole earth. Let Zion arise and shine, finding her light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon her. Make thy ministers wise to discern the signs of the times, and to instruct thy people in them. Prepare thy church every where for the coming of the Lord, and give thy people grace to wait and long for his appearance. Let the groans of creation, and its earnest expectation, waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God, at length cease in thy promised kingdom; and the kingdoms of this world at length become the kingdom of our Lord and his Christ, and he reign for ever and ever. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

Thy goodness, O our God, endureth yet daily; and

Thou, Lord, art nigh unto all them that call upon Thee, to all that call upon Thee in truth. Thou wilt fulfil the desire of them that fear Thee ; Thou wilt also hear their cry, and wilt save them. In the confidence of thy faithful promises, we now call upon Thee for help and grace in all the duties of that year on which we have entered, and for a blessing upon all its various events.

Pardon, through the blood of Jesus, all our past sinfulness and unfaithfulness. Enable us all to believe in him, and receive thankfully his atonement ; and being justified by faith, grant to all of us peace with Thee through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And, being thus reconciled ourselves unto Thee, we would come before Thee, according to thine own command, that first of all, supplications, prayers, and intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men.

O God, look in tender mercy upon all our relatives and friends ; where they know and love Thee, increase, confirm, and strengthen their faith and love. Where they are yet unconverted, Oh that this may be an acceptable year for their true conversion !

Regard with thy favour our Queen, the Prince Albert, and their royal offspring. Preserve them from their peculiar temptations and dangers, and make them large and increasing blessings to our church and our country. Guide all who are in the administration of the affairs of state, to such measures as will promote thy glory and the real good of this nation.

O Lord, behold us in tender pity, and spare us as a nation, though we deserve thy wrath. Let not the rich trust in riches, but in Thee. Let not the poor injure others, or take thy name in vain. Let all remember the solemn account hereafter to be given, and all now seek one another's real good. O remove far away all murmuring and complaining, all hard-heartedness and selfishness, all covetousness and infidelity ; and make us a righteous nation, keeping the truth.

Bless increasingly every year the many Religious So-

cieties which Thou hast raised up among us, for diffusing thy truth both at home and abroad. O Lord, strengthen the hands of thy servants engaged in these works of love. Let the churches be built, the ignorant educated, the Scriptures and pious books circulated, the wicked reclaimed, and the gospel preached throughout our country, till every corner of the land be replenished with Christian light and truth.

We ask for the same blessings on our wide and extended colonies. Wherever the British power prevails, there let the richest treasure of Britain, the gospel of Christ, be made known. Let bishops and pastors of thy flock be multiplied, congregations gathered, the means of grace established, the blessings of the Sabbath made known, and thy kingdom mightily grow and increase.

Prosper all efforts for the good of Zion, and especially bless the establishment of our episcopal church and worship among unconverted Jews in Jerusalem. Let this be the happy beginning of the promised bright and glorious day of Zion's glory, and the blessedness of Gentile nations.

Give full success to all missionary labours among the heathen. Wherever thy missionaries have gone forth preaching Christ to those that know him not, O Lord, bless their labours. Gather in speedily thine elect; take out of the Gentiles a people to thy name, and then return and build again the tabernacle of David which is fallen, that the residue of men may seek after the Lord; and let the whole earth be filled with thy glory.

O Lord, we entreat Thee, pour out thy Spirit from on high, and let the wilderness become a fruitful field, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose. May thy purposes of mercy be in this year largely ripened and accomplished, and give us the joy of seeing the kingdom of darkness diminishing and falling, and the kingdom of light and truth, of love and joy, of holiness and peace, making rapid advances in every part of the world.

Hear us, for our Redeemer's sake.

FIRST LORD'S DAY IN THE YEAR.

MORNING PRAYER.

O Lord God, who hast made heaven and earth, by thy great power and stretched-out arm ; who didst rest from all thy works on the seventh day, and bless it, and sanctify it ; the great, the mighty God, the Lord of hosts is thy name. Great in counsel and mighty in working, thine eyes are open upon all the sons of men, to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings : we worship, on this thy holy Sabbath, Thee our God, our own God, because Thou art the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O Lord, it is thy day, the first Sabbath of another month, the first Sabbath of another year : we raise then to Thee our grateful thanksgiving, for the blessings without number which we as a family enjoy, and for all thy goodness which encompasses us about on every side. Not, O Lord, that we are better than others : Oh help us deeply to feel and bewail our great sinfulness in thy sight, both as a family together and every one in his own soul. The light of thy mercies may indeed fully manifest to us our great inconsistencies, our deep ingratitude, and the vileness of all our offences. But to sovereign grace and free love we owe every thing. Thou wilt have compassion on whom Thou wilt have compassion, and mercy on whom Thou wilt have mercy ; and, therefore, we are spared and blessed. Thou hast made us to differ, and we will glory in Thee alone.

O Lord of all mercy and goodness, grant that this Sabbath may be to us a commencement of Sabbaths more holy, more profitable, and more happy in communion with Thee, than any which we have hitherto passed upon earth. Let the talents which Thou hast entrusted to us, whether of time, or property, or influence, or strength, or abilities, be far more than ever heretofore traded with, or laid out, for thy honour, and glory, and the good of

others. Whatever our talents be, whether many or few, or only one, still may we, every one of us, diligently occupy them till Thou our Lord shalt return. Let every gift of thy Spirit bestowed upon us, be in this year more beneficially employed in thy service: remembering that the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

O Lord, grant that in this year we may all of us be made fuller and richer blessings to one another and to all around us. Let none of us fail of thy design of love in bringing us together, and near to each other, that we may be fountains of light and comfort, of help and happiness to one another. Oh let us never be a grievance and burden, but a constant spring of joy and gladness to all about us.

Let this year be favoured with special revivals of grace in our family, in our congregations, in our church, in our country, and in all the churches of Christ. Oh let thy people grow rapidly, in these last days, in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let our faith be more lively and laborious, our hope more patient and abounding, our love more fervent and unwearied this year, than it has ever yet been.

Let the folly of those who, in their voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intrude into things which they have not seen, vainly puffed up in their fleshly mind, and not holding the head, become more and more manifest, and let them proceed no further. Rebuke the unclean spirits now abroad. Bring to nothing all designs for the spread of infidelity, popery, and lawlessness, so that those seduced may be ashamed and converted. Let all these devices of the enemy only advance the kingdom of Christ, ripen the knowledge, mature the graces, and enlarge the numbers of thy people.

Oh let thy church awake and arise from the dust; let her take unto her her beautiful clothing, her robes of righteousness, her garments of salvation, and her ornaments of a meek and quiet spirit. Let thy people every-

where be raised up together, and made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ; having their conversation in heaven, and their affections set on things above. Thus let thy church look forth as the morning, fair as the sun, clear as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners.

And oh come and bless us in thy house and ordinances this day. Begin this first Sabbath, O our God, with overflowing grace and love to every one of our souls, through Jesus Christ our only Saviour.

EVENING PRAYER.

How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O Lord! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings: they shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house, and Thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures. From the heart we thank Thee for the fresh privileges of this first Sabbath of another year, and for the quickening calls of thy providence and of thy word, to devote ourselves afresh to Thee.

We have indeed hitherto been too much like barren trees, planted in a fertile vineyard, but bearing no fruit, and cumbering the ground: but Thou graciously, in the riches of thy goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering, hast spared us for another year; and still continuest to us the care of thy providence, the means of thy grace, and the strivings of thy Spirit. O Lord, grant that this long-suffering may be for our salvation; that this goodness may lead us to repentance. Oh that we may at length be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let every one of us receive such aid from thy Holy Spirit, that we may give all diligence to add to our faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge temperance, to temperance patience, to patience godliness, to godliness brotherly-kindness, and to brotherly-kindness charity, and so make our calling and election sure.

O Lord, our souls do indeed cleave to the dust. They

ought to soar upward, and to live as in thy presence ; but we find, by sad and humbling experience, that they are perpetually grovelling here below, filled with the cares of this life, the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things : quicken Thou us according to thy word. If any of us are yet dead in sins, O God, who art rich in mercy to all them that call upon Thee, quicken us and make us new creatures in Christ Jesus. Are any of us cold and dull in spiritual things, we beseech Thee to renew a right spirit within us : quicken us, according to thy command to love Thee with all our heart and mind and soul and strength : quicken us, according to the sureness and fulness of thy promises ; and never leave us nor forsake us till we rise from the life of faith and love here, to the enjoyment of eternal life in thy heavenly kingdom.

O Lord, we trust that Thou hast put into all our hearts at this season, some fresh desires to live more unto Thee—some new purposes of walking more closely with God, and more watchfully resisting the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil ; that Thou hast led us to form some good designs and plans for the year now before us. Oh strengthen us with might by thine own Spirit, to bring these desires and purposes to some good effect.

We earnestly beseech Thee to grant thy grace, that our prayers may be more spiritual and fervent, more full and constant : that our searching of the Scriptures may be more persevering and deep, more devout and practical : that our public and social worship may be in spirit and in truth less formal and more earnest and fervent. We ask that our intercourse with one another may be less trifling and vain and empty, and more full of Thee and of those things which belong to our everlasting peace, so that we may ever be seeking to please one another to our mutual edification. Cause us to grow up into Christ in all things. Whether sickness or health, pain or ease, joy or sorrow, weakness or strength, befal us, let all be accomplishing thy gracious designs of love, for our growth in grace and our being weaned

from the world. In our slightest affliction let us not lose sight of our sin, as justly requiring it, and in our heaviest trials, let us discern the strength and fulness of thy love in sending them.

O Lord Jesus Christ, dwell in us and give us thy Spirit, that we may ever abide in Thee, and so be really fruitful. Remove not the candlestick from our church and from our land. Give us as a nation to prize our inestimable religious privileges—to repent of all our evil ways—to be watchful and strengthen the things that remain which are ready to die ; and so be spared and blessed, and made a blessing to all other nations, to Jews and Gentiles in every land, through Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

EPIPHANY, Jan. 6.

MORNING PRAYER.

Most gracious God, who hast revealed thyself not as the God of the Jews only, but also of us Gentiles, for ever blessed be thy name for that largeness and fulness of pity and grace in which Thou wilt have mercy on whom Thou wilt have mercy, and wilt have compassion on whom Thou wilt have compassion. Thou hast called upon us, Rejoice, ye Gentiles with his people,—Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles, and laud him, all ye people ; we desire now to answer to this gracious invitation, and as a family, this morning together to rejoice in Thee, and praise Thee for all thy grace and goodness to us.

We would together extol and exalt thy name, while we celebrate and admire that mystery of grace and love revealed unto thy holy apostles and prophets, that the Gentiles should be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of thy promise in Christ, by the gospel.

O Lord, our forefathers were indeed Gentile sin the flesh ; without Christ, aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, strangers from the covenant of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world ! but thanks be unto Thee,

that now in Christ Jesus we who some time were afar off, are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Jesus is our peace: he has broken down the middle wall of partition, and through him we both have access by one Spirit unto Thee, O Father, and are admitted into fellowship in all the privileges and blessings of thy glorious gospel, and are made fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God.

Oh let not all this grace be void to our souls through our unbelief and negligence. Give us to know our day of salvation and our accepted time. Let us diligently improve our present opportunities. Let none of us receive the grace of God in vain; but all of us give diligence to make our calling and election sure.

And give unto us, O God, as Thou didst give unto thy Apostle Paul, a large heart of love to feel that we are debtors to the Greeks and the Barbarians, to the wise and to the unwise, and that it is a special gift of thy grace, given to us British Christians, that we have such singular advantages for making known thy gospel far and wide among the nations of the whole earth. O Lord, we beseech Thee to favour so greatly our beloved country that its colonies, and commerce, all its riches and dominion, may be consecrated to the blessed office of publishing the good tidings of great joy;—free salvation through thy grace in Christ Jesus, in every part of the world. Bless all our Religious Societies, formed for this purpose—all their conductors—all their missionaries and labourers—all their missions, churches, and schools—all their converts from among the heathen—all their learners and scholars abroad, and all their friends and supporters here at home. Grant that no effort of mercy may be without a double blessing, according to thy faithful promise: Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. And at length let thy ancient people Israel, seeing that salvation is thus come to us Gentiles, be provoked to jealousy, and through our mercy also obtain mercy. O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, and God of Jacob, hear us for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

(To be added to the usual Family Prayer.)

O God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, who hast called us out of darkness into thy marvellous light, give unto us the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ; the eyes of our understanding being enlightened, that we may know what is the hope of thy calling, and what the riches of the glory of thy inheritance in the saints; and according to thy great love quicken and raise us up together, and make us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

O Thou blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, given to be a light unto us Gentiles, and God's salvation unto the ends of the earth, we, once Gentile sinners, brought now to God by thy blood, do glorify God for his great mercy. Let us ever walk in thy light while it is continued to us.

O Holy Ghost, the quickener of those dead in sins, the sanctifier of the elect, come, in all thy grace and fulness, to bless the churches of Christ among the Gentiles; and cause them to break forth on the right hand and on the left, till the fulness of the Gentiles be come in, and all Israel be saved.

O God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, three persons and one God, bring all men to the knowledge of the truth, that they may be saved: have mercy upon us, pardon all our sins, and bless us now and evermore.

THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL, Jan. 25.

O God, who, through the preaching of the blessed Apostle St. Paul, hast caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world, grant, we beseech Thee, that we, having this wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness unto Thee for the same, by

following the holy doctrine which he taught, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts ix. 1—22. *Gospel,* Matt. xix. 27 to end.

THE MARTYRDOM OF CHARLES I., JAN. 30.

O Lord our God, without whom there is no power, the powers that be being ordained of Thee, by Thee kings reign and princes decree justice, and thou hast commanded us to honour them, and being subject to them, we together acknowledge before Thee that national sinfulness through which our country was once given up to civil war, and its monarch brought to a violent death by the hands of evil men. We confess and mourn before Thee, that in our day also, murmurers and complainers, scoffers walking after their own lusts, men defiling the flesh, despising dominion, and speaking evil of dignities, promising liberty while they themselves are the servants of corruption, abound throughout our country. O deliver us from unreasonable and wicked men who have no faith: deliver us from the subtle snares of the apostacy: deliver us from those, who, in these perilous times, are fierce, despisers of them that are good, traitors, heady, and high-minded. Let them proceed no further. Pluck many as brands from the burning, and, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Bless our Queen, and direct her council; and let thy people, guided by thy word, and praying for kings and all that are in authority, lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty, for our Redeemer's sake.

THE PURIFICATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY. FEB. 2.

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that as thy only-begotten Son was this day, presented in the temple in substance of our flesh; so we may be presented unto Thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Mal. iii. 1—5. *Gospel,* Luke ii. 22—40.

ST. MATTHIAS' DAY, Feb. 24.

O Almighty God, who into the place of the traitor Judas didst choose thy faithful servant Matthias to be of the number of the twelve Apostles, grant that thy church, being always preserved from false apostles, may be ordered and guided by faithful and true pastors, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts i. 15 to end. *Gospel*, Matt. xi. 25 to end.

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, March 25.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Isaiah vii. 10—15. *Gospel*, Luke i. 26—38.

ST. MARK'S DAY, April 25.

O Almighty God, who hast instructed thy holy church with the heavenly doctrine of thy Evangelist St. Mark, give us grace, that being not like children carried away with every blast of vain doctrine, we may be established in the truth of thy holy gospel, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Eph. iv. 7—16. *Gospel*, John xv. 1—11.

ST. PHILIP AND ST. JAMES'S DAY, May 1.

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life, grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ, to be the way, the truth, and the life; that following the steps of thy Holy Apostles, St. Philip and St. James, we may stedfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal

life, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, James i. 1—12. *Gospel*, John xiv. 1—14.

RESTORATION, May 29.

O Lord, our God and our King, who hast from the beginning dealt graciously with our sinful land, and multiplied thy blessings upon us, we give Thee glory that Thou didst deliver our country from anarchy and confusion, and restore our Christian constitution, under its rightful monarch, after a lengthened rebellion. Thou hast since continued to us all the blessings of the glorious Reformation ; and we magnify thy holy name, that among us, the pure religion of the gospel is supported and established, and Jesus is acknowledged to be Prince of the kings of the earth, and Christianity is recognized among the laws of the land. Notwithstanding all our sinfulness, still continue thy mercies : spare us : give us true repentance : bless us and do us good. Oh let us more and more, monarch, and rulers, and the nation at large, be a people fearing God and working righteousness. Hear us for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE, June 11.

O Lord God Almighty, who didst endue thy holy Apostle Barnabas with singular gifts of the Holy Ghost, leave us not, we beseech Thee, destitute of thy manifold gifts, nor yet of grace, to use them alway to thy honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts xi. 22 to end. *Gospel*, John xv. 12—16.

QUEEN'S ACCESSION, June 20.

O Lord God of our Fathers, who rulest over all, Thou art the God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the world ; we bless Thee for having raised our Sovereign Lady

Queen Victoria to the throne of these kingdoms ; and we beseech Thee, O God, to be with her, and to prosper her. Give her heavenly wisdom and understanding, that she may keep the law of the Lord, and serve Thee with a perfect heart and a willing mind. Bless the Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family ; and give unto our Queen a religious, obedient, loyal, and united people. Thou hast, in thy great favour, exalted us among the nations of the earth, in dominion and riches, in colonies and in commerce ; O grant that all our power, and wealth, and empire may be used for thy glory, and for promoting the temporal and eternal welfare of our fellow-men throughout the world. We ask this great mercy for our Redeemer's sake.

ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY, June 24.

Almighty God, by whose providence thy servant John Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of thy Son our Saviour, by the preaching of repentance ; make us so to follow his doctrine and holy life, that we may truly repent according to his preaching ; and after his example, constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for the truth's sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Isaiah xl. 1—11. *Gospel,* Luke i. 57 to end.

ST. PETER'S DAY, June 29.

O Almighty God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy Apostle St. Peter many excellent gifts, and commandedst him earnestly to feed thy flock : make, we beseech Thee, all bishops and pastors diligently to preach thy holy word, and the people obediently to follow the same ; that they may receive the crown of everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts xii. 1—11. *Gospel,* Matt. xvi. 13—19.

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE, JULY 25.

Grant, O merciful God, that as thy Holy Apostle St. James, leaving his father and all that he had, without delay was obedient unto the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him; so we, forsaking all worldly and carnal affections, may be evermore ready to follow thy holy commandments, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts xi. 27 to xii. 3. *Gospel*, Matt. xx. 20—28.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE, AUG. 24.

O Almighty and everlasting God, who didst give to thine Apostle Bartholomew grace, truly to believe and to preach thy word; grant, we beseech Thee, unto thy church, to love that word which he believed, and both to preach and receive the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Acts v. 12—16. *Gospel*, Luke xxii. 24—30.

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE, SEPT. 21.

O Almighty God, who by thy blessed Son didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom, to be an Apostle and Evangelist; grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires and inordinate love of riches, and to follow the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

Epistle, 2 Cor. iv. 1—6. *Gospel*, Matt. ix. 9—13.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, SEP. 29.

O everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of angels and men in a wonderful order, mercifully grant, that as the holy angels alway do Thee service in heaven, so by thy appointment they may succour and defend us on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Rev. xii. 7—12. *Gospel*, Matt. 1—10.

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST, Oct. 18.

Almighty God, who calledst Luke the physician, whose praise is in the Gospel, to be an Evangelist, and Physician of the soul, may it please Thee, that, by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him, all the diseases of our souls may be healed, through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, 2 Tim. iv. 5—15. *Gospel,* Luke x. 1—7.

ST. SIMON AND ST. JUDE, Oct. 28.

O Almighty God, who hast built thy church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the head corner-stone, grant us to be so joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable unto Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Jude 1—8. *Gospel,* John xvii. 17 to end.

ALL SAINTS' DAY, Nov. 1.

O Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, grant us grace, so to follow thy blessed Saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which Thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Rev. vii. 2—12. *Gospel,* Matt. v. 1—12.

NOVEMBER 5.

O Thou good and gracious God, who art the God that doest wonders, we will remember thy works and commemorate thy wonders of old. Mighty have been thy acts of mercy to Britain. All thanks which we can give be rendered unto Thee, who didst early deliver our beloved

country from heathen idolatry ; and, amidst innumerable enemies, didst still keep thy church among us, so that the gates of hell did not prevail against her : all thanks we owe to Thee for the ever-to-be gratefully remembered Reformation, by which the pure faith of Christ was restored to us. We especially at this time praise Thee for those mercies which we this day celebrate, in our deliverance from the papal conspiracy of the gunpowder treason, and afterward from popish tyranny and arbitrary power, and in the full establishment of the Protestant faith at the Revolution. And still Thou hast not removed our candlestick, and, as a nation, the true faith of the gospel is professed and established among us : all glory be to thy holy name. O our God, pardon our great ingratitude and unmindfulness of thy singular mercies. Pardon us that we so lightly prize our highest blessings. Give us grace to repent and to strengthen the things which remain and are ready to die. Continue to us blessings, which have been too little prized, and which we have so little merited. Let us boldly confess thy truth before all the kingdoms of the earth, and use the vast means which Thou hast given for diffusing the pure light of the gospel of the grace of God throughout the world, for our Redeemer's sake.

PRINCE OF WALES' BIRTH-DAY, Nov. 9, (1841.)

O Thou, the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God ; by Thee kings reign and princes decree justice ! Thou hast promised that all kings shall bow down before thy Son, and all nations shall serve him ; we beseech Thee to lead in Thy way and thy truth, the Prince of Wales. O Lord, guide and assist all around him with thy heavenly grace ; do thou train him up in thy faith, fear and love ; grant that he may honour thy holy name, glorify Thee in all things, and become a full blessing to our country, and to the whole church of Christ, for our Redeemer's sake.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY, Nov. 30.

Almighty God, who didst give such grace unto thy holy apostle St. Andrew, that he readily obeyed the calling of thy Son Jesus Christ, and followed him without delay, grant unto us all, that we, being called by thy holy word, may forthwith give up ourselves obediently to fulfil thy holy commandments, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Rom. x. 9 to end. *Gospel*, Matt. iv. 18—22.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, Dec. 1.

Almighty and everlasting God, who, for the more confirmation of the faith, didst suffer thy holy apostle Thomas to be doubtful in thy Son's resurrection, grant us so perfectly, and without all doubt, to believe in thy Son Jesus Christ, that our faith in thy sight may never be reproved. Hear us, O Lord, through the same Jesus Christ; to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore. Amen.

Epistle, Ephes. ii. 19 to end. *Gospel*, John xx. 24 to end.

CHRISTMAS DAY, Dec. 25.

MORNING PRAYER.

O our merciful Father, we thy sinful and rebellious children bow before Thee in grateful adoration, to thank Thee for that astonishing love, manifested as on this day, above eighteen hundred years since, in sending Jesus Christ in our nature to save us sinners. Oh what love was this, that thy only-begotten Son, being in the very form of God, should not disdain the virgin's womb, should take upon him the form of a servant and be made in the likeness of man. We bless Thee, we praise Thee, we glorify Thee, for those good tidings of great joy, that

there was born unto us, as on this day, a Saviour, even Christ the Lord.

Give us, with full confiding faith, humble adoration, unfeigned gratitude, and intense love, to consider this great mystery, God manifest in the flesh; and behold the glory of Jesus, as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, till Christ be formed in us the hope of glory. Let us behold as in a glass the glory of the Lord, till we be changed into the same image, from glory to glory, by the Spirit of the Lord.

Oh give unto us a cheerful, holy, spiritual, and edifying improvement of this sacred season. Let us rejoice in thy goodness, be filled with thy praise, make known thy love, and be a blessing to all around us.

Let thy house be crowded with willing, glad, and devout worshippers, and believing and obedient hearers of thy truth. Open to thy ministers the great mystery this day commemorated, that they may fully declare the wonders of redeeming love to thy churches. [Bless those of us especially who hope to go to thy holy table, and there to obtain in the breaking of bread, the communion of the body of Christ, and in the cup of blessing, the communion of the blood of Christ. Let us find a double blessing in commemorating the Saviour's death on the day of his birth—receive Christ into our hearts, evermore to dwell there—and daily, through his Spirit, mortify and crucify the lusts of the flesh.]

Bless all thy churches throughout the earth, in the commemoration of this wonderful and all-surprising mystery of love. O Lord, pardon all the great profanation of this sacred season, which has so long dishonoured thy name. Oh let it not be desecrated by mere carnal mirth and worldly pleasure. Let us never lose sight of the awful guilt of man, which required this humiliation of the Son of God, and of the holiness and purity to which He has redeemed us at such a costly sacrifice. Let us never act inconsistently with the great and mysterious truths of His incarnation this day celebrated.

Grant largely of thy Holy Spirit, through the incarnate Redeemer, not only to us now as a family kneeling together, but to all the members and branches, and kindred, and connections of our several families. Let family love and union, and all the ties of kindred, never decrease or diminish among us, but enlarge and be strengthened, till time be swallowed up in eternity.

Bless all lands with the light of thy glorious gospel. O Christ, the Light of the Gentiles, speedily shine over all the world ; O Christ, the long-expected glory of thy people Israel, at length in all thy majesty and love reveal thyself to thy waiting people.

O Lord, we thank Thee not only for the great miracle of thy love in the incarnation of our Lord and Saviour, but for the miracle of his being born in many a sinner's heart from age to age, even to this day. Oh still help thy church. Thou knowest how great are its dangers, how strong are the pillars of the kingdom of darkness, and how mighty the Prince of the power of the air, who now worketh in the children of disobedience ; but, O Thou who art stronger than he, be in us, and prevail within us over all our foes, and hasten the full triumph of thy church in thine own kingdom, for thy name's sake.

EVENING PRAYER.

Thanks, eternal thanks be unto Thee, O Father, for that blessed truth which we have this day commemorated, that the Eternal Word, who was in the beginning and was with God and was God, was made flesh and dwelt among us. All glory be unto Thee, that unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government is upon his shoulder, and his name is called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

Oh help us, Lord, to ponder these things in our hearts as Mary did, and to adore Thee more and more, and to admire the wondrous fact that God sent his Son, made of

a woman, made under the law, to redeem us and give us the adoption of sons. Let us live as it becomes those who are brought nigh unto Thee, in so glorious a relation that Jesus, thy own Son, is not ashamed to call us brethren. Give us to realize the certainty, the fulness, the freeness, and the glory of that salvation which Jesus, by his incarnation, accomplished.

Enable us not only to look at all which Jesus, in our nature did for us on earth, but to look upward and see that same nature carried into the heavens, and that same Jesus now appearing in the presence of God for us. By faith let us now see him at the right hand of God, ever living to make intercession for us; and know that he can enter into all the feelings, distresses, sorrows, wants, and desires of our nature, and into all our temptations, being touched with the feeling of our infirmities, having been tempted in all things like as we are, yet without sin. Assure us then of his sympathy, his compassion, and the tenderness of his fellow-feeling towards the children of men, and gladly let us commit our cause and interests and our immortal souls to him, who was born, and lived, and died for us; and let us be constrained by his love to devote ourselves to him.

We beseech Thee also now to give us grace, not only to look at the birth, and life, and death of Jesus here below, and at his present seat at thy right hand, and his interceding there for us, but to look forward to the quickly-approaching period, when the same Jesus shall return again to our earth in like manner as he ascended from it, when his feet shall once more stand upon Mount Olivet, no longer in his lowly form of a servant and a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, no more for suffering and sacrifice, but crowned with glory and honour, coming in the glory of the Father with all his holy angels, King of kings and Lord of lords, to overthrow all his enemies, and to reign for ever and ever. For that coming in glory make us truly prepared and ready; let us be looking for it and expecting it. Let us put on all the

armour of light, and be manifestly the children of the light and the children of the day. Let our conversation be in heaven, and our affections set on things above, that looking for Jesus from heaven, he may change our vile body, and fashion it like unto his glorious body, according to the working of his mighty power.

Write upon our minds the truths which have been brought before us this day. Let not our faith fail in the time of trial. Teach us to keep judgment and to do justice, knowing that thy salvation is near to come and thy righteousness to be revealed. Oh let us seek heavenly and not earthly treasure, and let our loins be girt, and our lights burning, and our souls waiting and watching for thy appearing, O blessed Jesus,—to whom with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and evermore.

ST. STEPHEN, Dec. 26.

Grant, O Lord, that in all our sufferings here upon earth for the testimony of thy truth, we may stedfastly look up to heaven, and by faith behold the glory that shall be revealed ; and being filled with the Holy Ghost, may learn to love and bless our persecutors, by the example of thy first Martyr, St. Stephen, who prayed for his murderers to Thee, O blessed Jesus, who standest at the right hand of God to succour all those that suffer for Thee, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Epistle, Acts vii. 55 to end. *Gospel,* Matt. xxiii. 34 to end.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Dec. 27.

Merciful Lord, we beseech Thee to cast thy bright beams of light upon thy Church ; that it being enlightened by the doctrine of thy blessed Apostle and Evangelist St. John, may so walk in the light of thy truth, that it may at length attain to the light of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, 1 John ii. to end. *Gospel,* John xxi. 19 to end.

THE INNOCENTS' DAY, Dec. 28.

O Almighty God, who out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast ordained strength, and madest infants to glorify Thee by their deaths, mortify and kill all vices in us ; and so strengthen us by thy grace, that by the innocency of our lives, and constancy of our faith, even unto death, we may glorify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle, Rev. xiv. 1—5. *Gospel,* Matt. ii. 13—18.

THE LAST LORD'S DAY OF THE YEAR.

MORNING PRAYER.

O ever-living God, which art, which wast, which art to come, before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God. O Lord, Thou shalt endure for ever, and thy remembrance unto all generations, and blessed be the Lord our God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from everlasting to everlasting !

O Lord, we thy frail creatures, whose life is as a vapour, whose years pass away as a tale that is told, who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, and who are crushed before the moth, fly to Thee the eternal God as our refuge. Oh support and sustain us by thine everlasting arms, and give unto us eternal life in Christ Jesus our Saviour.

We confess unto Thee the innumerable sins of the past year, all our Sabbath iniquities, and the iniquities of our whole lives. O Lord, how can we look back without being ashamed and confounded for our own ways ! We desire to remember before Thee our evil ways, and our doings which were not good, and to loathe ourselves in our own sight for our iniquities and for our abominations. Enable us to look back on all the way which Thou hast led

us these many years in this wilderness-world, to humble us, and to prove us, and to teach us what is in our own hearts. O Lord, we find more and more that our hearts are deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, and that all evil proceeds out of them, and there is no good thing in them.

Create then in us a clean heart, O God : renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from us. Let us learn, in all our sinfulness and weakness, corruption and depravity, more of the grace and glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us learn wholly to renounce all hopes in any righteousness of our own, and to boast only in Thee, all the day long, and to praise thy name for ever and ever. Let us see that all our righteousness and strength is in the Lord, and that his grace is all-sufficient for us.

And while earthly Sabbaths are passing away, and we lose one after another, ripen our souls in them and through them, for keeping that eternal Sabbath which Thou hast promised to thy people. Let even our most humbling experience of our corruption, through the mighty energy of thy Spirit, in overcoming evil with good and bringing good out of evil, produce in us poverty of spirit, contrition for sin, strong faith, ardent love, and more entire devotedness to our divine Redeemer. Let our infirmities themselves thus magnify thy power and grace, and all things work together to make us vessels of mercy, meet for the Master's use.

Nor let this last sabbath of the year pass without a gracious revival and refreshing from thy presence, and fresh, and more fixed, and more successful purposes of heart to walk in newness of life, and to give up ourselves and all that we are and have, wholly to Thee.

We ask for the same blessing for all our brethren in the Lord, in our own congregation, and in all churches of Christ throughout the wide world. Oh let thy gracious purposes of love and all thy long-suffering and forbearance with the sinful sons of men, save multitudes from perish-

ing, and bring multitudes to repentance, that countless numbers of immortal souls may be saved in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

EVENING PRAYER.

O Lord our God, who hast made the Sabbath for man, and given it to be a sign between us and Thee, that we might know that Thou art the Lord our God, who sanctifieth us,—we bless Thee for all the vast mercies and privileges of our Christian Sabbaths, during the past year. We thank Thee for all the instructions received in them, for all thy holy ordinances, the light of thy word, the preaching of thy ministers, and the abundant means of grace which we have enjoyed. Thou hast greatly exalted us in religious privileges and spiritual advantages. Mighty works Thou hast done for us in this favoured country, and we bless together, and we magnify together, thy loving-kindness.

We mournfully acknowledge, O Lord, that we have not rendered again unto Thee according to thy goodness. We have, as a nation, greatly abused thy kindness, and misused our many advantages, and profaned thy day and thy name. We have, as a family, walked unworthy of our high calling, and have been too much like the unfruitful tree, barren year after year, and only cumbering the ground. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, and because his compassions fail not.

Lord, vouchsafe unto us in the review of the past, a far more lively gratitude for all the proofs and tokens of thy goodness toward us, and a far more humble and penitent and contrite heart under the deep sense of our own inconsistency, unfruitfulness, and unworthy returns unto Thee. Give us full purpose of heart to cleave more closely unto the Lord our God, hereafter ; to honour and sanctify the Sabbath more, and to give it up more strictly and entirely to its sacred duties.

Impress upon our minds, O gracious God, the lessons

of this day—the shortness of time, the nearness of the judgment to come, the unspeakable importance of thy favour, the inestimable value of our never-dying souls, and the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, our Lord, so that we may count all but loss to win Christ and to be found in him. O let us not seek earthly treasure, but strive to gain heavenly riches. Let us not call evil good, and good evil ; but do Thou purge our understanding, and give us to see that thy will is altogether good, and teach us to delight in doing it.

To Thee we commit all that is now before us in another year. How little can we discern what is coming to pass ! but help us to confide in Thee ; and to see that every sorrow, sickness, and trial, is guided by infinite wisdom and love. Oh let the fruit of all thy providential dealing be abundant in righteousness and joyful conformity to thy will.

Bless every member of this household. We thank Thee for the love which from eternity provided so many temporal and spiritual comforts for us ; for the ties of Christian affection, and the bonds of holy love which unite us as one family here below, and for the blessed hope of being eternally united in thy kingdom of glory near at hand, and yet to come.

Bless the people of this place. Let not thy preached word return unto Thee void. Bless all the secret meditations, and the social intercourse of thy people here. Make the poor rich in faith, and the rich to abound in good works ; and let all be united together in pure and holy love.

Bless us more than ever Thou hast yet done, according to the fulness of thy love in the approaching year. Assist us in duty, preserve us from temptation, guard us from danger. Give us to walk in the fear of the Lord, and yet more, let the love of the Lord constrain us, that we may render a delightful service to Thee, and find it perfect freedom. Honour us with large usefulness here, preservation in the hour of temptation, and full joy in the day of

Christ. All these great things we ask of Thee, for the worthiness of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR.

MORNING PRAYER.

O ever-living God, the eternal and unchangeable Jehovah, the great I AM, which art and wast, and art to come, whose years fail not, we, who are the children of a day, formed of the dust, whose flesh is as grass, and all our goodliness as the flower of the field, soon fading and passing away, come unto Thee, whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting on them that fear Thee. We come in the name of One who bears our form, and is partaker of our nature, while He is also one with Thee, equal with God, even Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever.

O Lord, when we look back on the year now closing, how great has been thy goodness to us, how patient thy forbearance with us, how wonderful thy grace toward us! Mercies have surrounded us from day to day, from week to week, from month to month, from the beginning to the end—mercies at home and mercies abroad, mercies in journeying and mercies in resting, mercies in our own family, and with relatives and friends. We have been preserved amidst danger: we have been kept from evils which we merited; and even in our deepest trials, we have experienced the most abounding goodness and love. We are still encompassed with blessing—the living, the living to praise Thee, as we do this day! We together unite in making a fresh memorial, in this our family worship, of thy loving-kindness; and say from the heart, Hitherto the Lord has helped us.

Let so much goodness lead us to repentance. Most unworthy have been our returns; innumerable have been our short-comings; our resolutions have been broken, our vows unperformed, and every thing which we have done has been short of thy pure and perfect law, and mingled

with multiplied imperfections and defects. We have not lived as a holy priesthood, dedicated to Thee, and continually offering up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to Thee by Jesus Christ ; but we have lived to ourselves, and cannot come unto Thee or stand before Thee, but as we have access by Jesus our Mediator.

Oh teach us the great lessons which thy goodness and our sinfulness should, at this season especially, impress on our minds. Let all the way in which we have been led humble us, and show us to ourselves. Let it teach us what evil there is in us, and to discern how sinful and vile we are in ourselves, and how abominable we truly are, through our sins in thy sight, so that we may loathe and abhor ourselves. O give us that humble and contrite spirit, with which the High and Holy One that inhabits eternity will dwell, and in which he delights. Teach us all the emptiness of this vain world, and the folly of seeking our rest in that which is so polluted, and give us to arise and depart from all its lusts and sins, and to seek our rest only in the Lord, and patiently wait for him. Be Thou our shield and our exceeding great reward, now and evermore. Be Thou our joy and strength, the portion of our inheritance and of our cup, and do Thou maintain our lot.

Grant the same blessings to all the dear circle of relatives and friends and neighbours whom we would especially at this season remember. O let not these more lengthened and marked periods of time and providence pass away, without more earnest prayer, more determined purposes of living to Thee, a more plentiful effusion of thy Holy Spirit, and an enlarged and full revival of thy work of grace in all our hearts.

And as our salvation is continually nearer and nearer, and we see the day of the Lord approaching, let thy church everywhere make ready for his coming ; let thy people be like the wise virgins, and have oil in their vessels, and be watchful. Oh let our loins be girt, and our lights burning, so as to be all ready to welcome our returning Lord and Saviour. Hear us, for his name's sake.

EVENING PRAYER.

O our God, thy years are throughout all generations. Of old Thou hast laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment: as a vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed: but Thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end. The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before Thee. Number us with them, and make us partakers of the favour which Thou showest to them.

Amidst all the changing scenes and passing seasons of this transient world, let our hearts be fixed on things heavenly and eternal; and give us to seek first the kingdom of God and thy righteousness.

In coming before Thee at the close of this year, we desire gratefully to acknowledge thy loving-kindness to us in all that is past, and to mourn before Thee our many and grievous sins. O Lord, if we can see so much evil in our ways, who can but little discern the exceeding sinfulness of sin, what must our iniquities be when set before Thee, and when our secret sins are set in the light of thy countenance? Our mouths must be for ever stopped. We confess that we are all guilty before Thee, and justly condemned by thy holy law.

We come then now in this solemn season, weary and burdened with sin, to Jesus, that Lamb of God which Thou hast appointed to take away the sin of the world. We cast our burden now upon Thee, O Lord: do Thou sustain us. Yea, do Thou cast all our sins behind thy back, that they may be remembered no more against us.

O Lord, we do thank Thee from the heart for the rich, full, and free grace of the gospel of our Lord Jesus; so suited to all our wants as needy, sinful and perishing creatures. What a Saviour we have, whose blood cleanses from all sin, in whom we have righteousness and eternal life, whose Spirit aids us and strengthens us in all our

weakness ; who is gracious and full of compassion, touched with a feeling of our infirmities, tender and forbearing ! O what a Father is our God, who pities us as his own children, and whose goodness leads us to repentance ! Though we cannot glory in ourselves, we would glory always in the Lord : though we must be humbled in the true view of ourselves, we do exult in him and magnify his name for all things : for all the mercies—yes, and for the trials of the year now closing.

O Lord, teach us now so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Satisfy us early with thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad in Thee all our days. Let us henceforth redeem the time, and in the midst of evil days busily occupy with our talents till the Lord come.

O gracious and merciful Father, we acknowledge thy kind providence which has been constantly at work all through our past lives, to bring about those exact circumstances by which we are now encompassed, with lessons of humbling experience and with blessings and mercies on every side. Give us then more confidence in Thee for the coming year, and more warm-hearted, fervent, and supreme love to Thee. We cannot tell what a year or what a day may bring forth ; but Thou, our best friend, our God and our Father, knowest all from the beginning to the end. Oh let us then have perfect peace, and repose in thy care and love.

And let thy Spirit inspire in us holy resolutions and firm purposes of walking in newness of life. Revive thy work in the midst of the days, in our hearts, in our church, in our country, and in all the churches of Christ. As we approach nearer the day of Christ, let thy people be more and more longing and preparing for his appearing. Everywhere let this solemn season speak with the powerful and quickening voice to all men, and rouse the careless and awaken the slumbering, and lead us all to Jesus, our only Saviour, for fresh life and strength in thy ways. Hear us for his name's sake.

Church Occasional Seasons.

PRAYER BEFORE BAPTISM OF A CHILD.

O Lord our God and Saviour, to whom all power in heaven and earth is given, who didst command thy apostles to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, according to the direction of thy word and thine own gracious invitation, to suffer little children to come unto Thee, for of such is the kingdom of heaven—we would bring our child to thy holy baptism. O Lord, give Thou thy blessing with the means of thine own appointment. Baptize our child with the Holy Ghost. Give both the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost. Give us the full comfort of knowing that our child is holy and dedicated to Thee, and give us grace to bring up this child as the Lord's, and in thy nurture and admonition.

We beseech Thee to make this a time of spiritual blessing to our whole household. Let all be now reminded of their baptismal vows, and bring every member of our family into the mystical body of thy church; that the name which was named upon us in our baptism, may be no mere outward form, but a reality felt and enjoyed in our souls. Let the name of the Father be to us a seal of adoption, the name of the Son a seal of his living image in our hearts, the name of the Holy Ghost a seal of his indwelling grace and power, and let us ever be living in the hope of thy glory. Hear us, for our Redeemer's sake. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER BAPTISM.

Thanks be unto Thee, O our Father, for the many precious promises which Thou hast given in thy word to those who are baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and admitted by covenant into thy church. Enable us to rely upon thy faithfulness ; and, in dependance upon thy loving-kindness, to bring up in our family, this child now baptized in thy name, for Thee in every thing. We would believe thy precious promises to us and to our children. We would view this child as a member of Christ, a child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven ; and, as such, would train up our child day by day, in faith and prayer, in the way in which [he] should go, in full assurance that when [he] is old, [he] will not depart from it. Oh strengthen our resolutions, and give us thy grace to carry them patiently and steadily into effect ; not spoiling our children by over-indulgence—not giving way to unholy tempers with them—not misleading them by a bad example ; but daily teaching them thy truths, leading them on in the ways of Christ, restraining and checking all that is wrong, and encouraging every thing that is good. Give thy blessing to our efforts, that there may not only be in this child another member added to our family, but another member trained up in the household of faith, for a heavenly and eternal home, through Jesus our Redeemer.

BEFORE CONFIRMATION.

We especially commend unto Thee those young persons connected with our family and our neighbourhood, who are about to be confirmed. O Lord, give them thy Holy Spirit abundantly ; make them thoughtful, serious, and earnest, in renewing their solemn baptismal promise and

vow. Make them truly upright and sincere before Thee. Let this be a time to be much remembered for thy grace imparted to them. Give them firm decision in thy ways, and entire yielding up of themselves to thy service; so that hereafter they may never fall back, or be ashamed to confess thy name. Through Jesus our Redeemer.

AFTER CONFIRMATION.

We bless Thee, O our God, for the grace given to those young persons connected with us and our neighbourhood, who have been confirmed. Oh put thy fear into their hearts, that they may never depart from Thee. Give them, with full purpose of heart, to cleave unto Thee, O Lord; and do Thou thyself keep them by thy power, through faith, unto thy salvation, ready to be revealed. O our God, grant them grace to cleanse their way amidst the many temptations which will try them, by taking heed to thy word. Remembering that thy vows are now upon them, let them take heed to perform them, and be strong in thy strength, and more than conquerors through him that loved us. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

BEFORE COMMUNION.

(On any day in the week previously.)

O gracious Redeemer, who in thy tender love to us, the same night in which Thou wast betrayed, didst take both bread and wine, and give them to thy disciples, as showing thine own body broken for us, and thine own blood shed for us, and for many, for the remission of sins, and didst command that this should be done in remembrance of Thee, we bless thy holy name for this gracious ordinance, and for its continued observance to this day. O Lord, assist by thy grace those of us who hope to go on the next Sabbath [or Communion day] to thy table, in giving time to self-examination and prayer. Impart to

us a lively feeling of our own sinfulness and unprofitableness, and a simple dependance on thy merits. Give us to hunger for the bread of life. Enable us to discern thy body, and to feed on Thee in our hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving. O prepare us, by thy grace, that we may, with a true penitent heart and lively faith, receive that holy sacrament, so that we may spiritually eat thy flesh and drink thy blood; that we may dwell in Thee and Thou in us, and that we may be one with Christ and Christ with us. Grant us these inestimable benefits, for thy great name's sake.

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

BEFORE COMMUNION.

Our heavenly Father, in whose house there is bread enough and to spare, receive us, thy sinful children, returning unto Thee in the name of Jesus Christ. Oh give unto us the spirit of prayer, and show us our weakness, and wants, and sinfulness, and thy power, and riches, and willingness to assist us; and let the Holy Spirit assist us; and let the Holy Spirit himself help our infirmities, that we may offer unto Thee acceptable worship.

Thou hast appointed this holy day for thine own service: write thy gracious law in our hearts, and enable us to lay aside all worldly thoughts and cares, and without coldness and distraction to wait upon Thee all the day in a spiritual and heavenly mind, and with all fervent and holy affections.

Our divine Redeemer having called us in his church to celebrate, this day, the memorial of his death, we beseech Thee to look with thy special grace upon those of us who hope to go to his holy table. O heavenly Father, we bless Thee that thou hast indeed commended thy love to us, in sending thy Son to be the propitiation for our sins, that we might live through him. In not sparing him, we thank Thee thou hast assured us that Thou wilt freely

give us all things, and that he who died for us must be full of love to us. Enable us by this love to discern our sinfulness and perverseness, and our vile ingratitude and base returns unto thee; and in the spirit of deep contrition and true repentance, as well as in the spirit of filial confidence and holy love, to go to this holy communion. We beseech Thee to enable us to discern, by faith, the Lord's body given and broken for us, and his blood shed for us. Oh let our souls be raised, by the Holy Ghost dwelling in us, to that true and saving faith, which this ordinance is so especially designed to aid us in attaining. Give us to discern Christ as the bread that came down from heaven, which gives life unto the world. O Lord Jesus, we come to Thee for this bread, that we may never hunger; and would believe on Thee, that we may never thirst. Oh give us to eat thy flesh and drink thy blood, and so have eternal life and be raised up at the last day. Make the eating of this bread and the drinking of this cup an effectual means of thy grace to give us this communion of thy body and thy blood. O heavenly Father, let Christ crucified be set forth among us evidently as before our eyes; manifesting himself to our souls in the breaking of bread, so that we may have a lively, quickening, soul-affecting, and reviving view of his death for us, and true fellowship with his sufferings. Give us to know the power of his resurrection, and that he is now seated at thy right hand: and by faith let us behold our risen Saviour appearing in heaven in thy presence for us, as the Lamb slain in the midst of the throne, and as the true High Priest of his people, ever living to make intercession for us. Give us, by the Lord's Supper, to gain a full assurance of his return in thy glory; seeing that as oft as we eat this bread and drink this cup we do show forth his death till he come,—let every celebration of this ordinance show us the passing away of the days of darkness, and the quick return of our heavenly Lord. Help us all, by this solemn memorial, to be found watching, praying, and ready for his coming.

We ask of Thee a great increase of love, both to our Lord Jesus Christ and to one another. Let us see that we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread; and so let love to one another be enkindled, and greatly quickened and strengthened. Let us sympathize more with one another's wants and joys, and by our love to the brethren show that we belong to the household of faith.

Strengthen us hereby for all the sacrifices, self-denial, labours, firmness, love, patience, forbearance, and persevering zeal of the Christian life; that, having partaken of this heavenly food, we may go to all our duties refreshed and invigorated for all our appointed work.

We pray for a blessing on the ministers appointed over us and all thy people, and on all the congregations which gather together in thy name. Let great grace be upon them all; and the Lord Jesus be magnified, this day, in the conversion and edification of a countless multitude, who shall be his in the day when he makes up his jewels. Hear us for his name's sake.

BEFORE COMMUNION ON THE LORD'S DAY.

(To be added to the usual Family Prayer.)

LORD'S DAY MORNING.

O Lord our God, who hast told us that the cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ, and that the bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ, and who hast called us by a solemn command to do this in remembrance of Thee, we beseech Thee to give a special blessing to those members of our family, who hope this day to partake of the Lord's Supper. O Jesus, manifest thyself to us there, as Thou dost not to the world. Let us find of a truth that Thou receivest sinners and eatest with them. Give us joy and peace in Thee, which the world can neither give nor take away,

and let this joy be our strength. We beseech Thee to grant that thine ordinance this day may be very quickening and reviving to our souls. Mortify our corruptions by thy death; and let all Christian graces be imparted and increased, while remembering thy dying love at thy table. O hear us for thy name's sake.

LORD'S DAY EVENING.

AFTER COMMUNION.

O Thou that dwellest in the highest heavens, before whom the heavenly hosts are worshipping, and with devout adoration crying out, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing: we would join our feeble praises; —we would now unite with them, saying, Thou art worthy to receive all blessing, and honour, and glory, for thou wast slain and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation: all glory be to Thee.

O Lord, we thank Thee that Thou hast not this day dealt with us as we deserved, and that Thou hast passed over, through our great High Priest, the iniquity of our holy things. We praise Thee for the good hope in Jesus, that our services, imperfect as they are, are accepted of Thee, and that the prayers which we have offered up shall be answered.

O give unto us all the good things which we have been this day asking of Thee; accept the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which has been offered in thy house and at thy table; and write upon our hearts the truths of thy holy word which we have this day heard.

Give especially the blessing of thy holy communion to those of us who have been to the holy table of the Lord. Give us to abide in Christ more entirely: and grant that He may dwell in our hearts by faith, and that we may be

rooted and grounded in love. Let the spirit of this holy communion remain with us. Make our repentance more deep and intense; and bring the dying love of Christ before us in more vivid and impressive colours. Cause us to feel that our weary and heavy-laden souls, approaching to him, do find true rest, and that he is the sure and full propitiation for all our sins. Give us more of his Spirit, of ardent, forbearing, self-sacrificing, costly, laborious, humble, and persevering love—a love, not of words only, but of deeds; a love ready for toil, and pain, and suffering, and yet free and cheerful, even to the unworthy and ungrateful. Feeling this love of Jesus to us, we would join in spirit the angelic song, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will towards men.

O Lord, seeing that Thou art our God by covenant engagements and immutable promises, and that Thou art ever near to us and present with us, grant us grace ever to seek thy face, and to walk with Thee; to live as in thy sight, and to do thy will.

And as solemn communion-vows now rest upon such of us as have been to thy table, let us remember that it would have been better not to have vowed, than having vowed, not to perform. Let us neither repent of the vows, nor be slack in the performance of them. Assist us hereafter to go through all our daily duties under the constraining influence of thy love.

And bless all our fellow-communicants at thy table, and our fellow-worshippers in thy house, and prosper thy word wherever it has this day been preached, to the conversion, healing, sanctifying and strengthening of multitudes of precious souls, and to the glory of thy great name.

Oh when shall the day arrive, when all the ends of the world shall remember the Saviour's sufferings and turn to Thee, and all the kindreds of the nations worship before Thee, and know that the kingdom is the Lord's, and he is the governor among the nations! Hasten the happy time, for our Redeemer's sake.

AFTER COMMUNION.

(To be added to the other Prayers.)

O Lord, our God and Saviour, who hast admitted some of us, unworthy and sinful as we are, to that heavenly feast of love in which we feed on Christ the true Bread of Life, keep in our hearts a lively remembrance of so great a token and pledge of thy favour and goodness toward us. Let us ever keep in mind that we have had communion even with the body and blood of Christ, and that we are united to the people of the Lord as one bread and one body. Enable us therefore to come out from the world, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Whether we eat or drink, or whatsoever we do, let us do all to thy glory. Let us give no offence or cause of stumbling to any one, but please all men in all things, not seeking our own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. We would especially love the brotherhood, and feel our union and oneness with all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Hear us, for his sake. Amen.

AFTER COMMUNION.

(May be added to other prayers in the following week.)

O our God and our Father, give to those of us who have lately been to thy holy table, deep and lasting impressions of the solemnity of those vows and obligations, and of the blessedness of the assurance of thy favours there renewed. Give us grace to live in the recollection of that quickening feeling, "I have sworn and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments." Help us to rejoice with trembling in the thought of the many bonds which unite us to Thee. Do Thou work in us to will and to do of thy good pleasure, thus enabling us to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. As we

owe Thee more than others, so may we aim at doing more ; in all things seeking to walk worthy of our high calling, to the glory of thy great name, through Jesus our Redeemer.

MARRIAGE IN A FAMILY.

O Thou blessed Saviour, who didst work thy first miracle at a marriage, and hast declared in thy word that marriage is honourable in all, and hath set it before us as signifying the great mystery of the union between Thee and thy church, we earnestly unite in prayer together for a blessing—that full blessing from the Lord, which maketh rich and addeth no sorrow with it—on this marriage in our family. God Almighty grant to both thy servants all temporal and spiritual good, and let this be a union full of spiritual advantage and mutual comfort and edification. Let the husband love his wife as Christ loved the Church, and the wife submit to the husband as unto the Lord : and let fresh and full views of all the oneness, grace, and loving-kindness which are betwixt Christ and his people, be continually thus opened to them, and daily let them become more and more like unto him. O hear us, for our Redeemer's sake.

THANKSGIVING AFTER CHILD-BIRTH.

Blessed be the Lord, who has inclined his ear to us, and heard the voice of our prayer. Gracious is the Lord, and righteous ; yea, our God is merciful. As a family, we render unfeigned thanksgiving unto Thee for thy tender mercy in carrying thine handmaid, at the head of this family, safely through the trying hour of child-birth, and for sparing and preserving both mother and infant. O how great is thy goodness ! how multiplied are thy mercies day by day ! We would in the sorrows of bringing forth children, learn our fallen state and the evil of sin ; and in deliverance from those sorrows, and the joy of a

living child born into the world, we would see thy goodness. We desire to be led, by his birth, to remember that Child who is born and that Son who is given, through whom cometh salvation, not only from temporal danger but from eternal ruin, if we continue in faith, and charity, and holiness, with sobriety. O Lord, we would pay our vows unto Thee in the presence of all thy people; let thy mercies constrain us to present ourselves a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Thee, which is our reasonable service, through Jesus our Redeemer.

BURIAL OF A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, help us, O our God, to say from the heart—The will of the Lord be done, blessed be the name of the Lord! We thank Thee that Jesus himself, by weeping at the grave of Lazarus, has sanctified tears of sorrow. We thank Thee that Jesus himself, by praying—If it be possible, let this cup pass from me—has sanctified desires for the removal of our sorrows; but give us, like him, also to say from the heart, The cup which my Father, hath given me, shall I not drink it? Not my will, but thine be done. Preserve us then, we beseech Thee, from all murmuring and repining thoughts; enable us to glorify Thee in this great trial. Let patience have its perfect work in us at this time. Give us to discern why this affliction has visited our family, and every one of us to be humbled for his own sins in thy sight. We would have entire confidence in thy wisdom and love, and be assured that all shall work for good. Let all thy design in this affliction be accomplished in every one of us, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PUBLIC FAST-DAY.

O Lord who hast given such plain commands, for thy people in times of national chastisement, to sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the people, sanctify

the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts ; we desire grace of Thee to join with our whole hearts in the humiliation of this day. We beseech Thee to grant that we may turn unto Thee with all our heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning, and rend our hearts ; and turn unto Thee, the Lord who art gracious and merciful, and slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth Thee of the evil.

O Lord, we acknowledge our deep national sinfulness,—so justly causing thy righteous displeasure. We have been full of pride and high-mindedness, boasting and vain-glory, covetousness and earthly-mindedness, neglectful of the poor, and murmuring against the rich, lovers of the world and lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, and therefore these evils have come upon us. Oh enable us to break off our sins by righteousness, and our iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, if it may be the healing of our disorders and the lengthening of our tranquillity.

O Lord, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish Thou the just. Oh give us not up on account of our sins, as Thou didst Israel of old, and the churches in those lands which are now overspread with Mahommedanism, Popery, and Infidelity ; but turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine upon us, and we shall be saved. Oh let us now at thy reproof turn to Thee, and do Thou pour out thy Spirit upon us and make known thy words to us, and so iniquity shall not be our ruin.

Let the appointed services of this day be observed, by us and all thy people, with deep seriousness and earnestness. Oh let none seek pleasure in the day of our fast, or exact all our labours, or fast for strife or debate, or with outward show only of humiliation. Give us grace to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to bid the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke. Let us deal our bread to the hungry, care for the poor,

cover the naked, and not hide ourselves from the destitute. Oh grant that we may, nationally and generally, repent us of all our sins, and turn to Thee, the Lord our God, and find, by happy experience, that while sin is a reproach to any people, righteousness does truly exalt a nation. Send thus a gracious rain of thy heavenly grace upon thy inheritance, and refresh the weary land with the showers of thy blessing, through Jesus our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

PUBLIC THANKSGIVING DAY.

We desire, O our God, to join with the general voice of our country this day in giving praises to the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, the Lord's name is to be praised. The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like unto Thee, the Lord our God, who dwellest on high and humblest thyself to behold the things which are in heaven and on the earth, and raisest the poor out of the dust.

We would, in the congregations of thy people, this day join with our fellow-worshippers with our whole hearts in blessing Thee the most high God, who livest for ever, and whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and thy kingdom from generation to generation.

Thou hast heard our supplication: we were brought low through affliction and sorrow: we cried unto the Lord in our trouble, and he saved us out of our distresses. He sent his word and healed us, and delivered us from our destruction. Oh that we and all men may praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Lord, increase our faith and confidence in Thee. Enlarge our hearts in prayer to Thee. Let thy loving-kindness lead us to far more universal acknowledgment of thy hand in every thing, and to entire devotedness as a nation

to thy service. Oh let not thy long-suffering be despised, but be our salvation. Grant that it may not be true of us, that when favour is shown to the wicked, yet will he not learn uprightness. Let thy forgiving love lead us to fear Thee. Let thy goodness lead us to repentance.

Let us not only honour Thee by offering Thee praise; but, in ordering our conversation aright, let us be shown the salvation of our God. Oh that there were such a heart in us, to fear Thee, and keep thy commandments always; that it might be well with us and our children after us. Now unto the living and true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be all honour, praise, and glory, now and evermore. Amen.

Family Providential Seasons.

REMOVING TO A NEW RESIDENCE.

O Lord, our God, without whose grace no changes can be a real blessing, who hast determined the times before appointed and the bounds of our habitation, we look unto Thee to prosper this change in our dwelling-place, to the spiritual as well as the temporal good of our family. We humble ourselves before Thee for all our past sins, and thank Thee for the many mercies received hitherto in the place of our abode: give us true repentance for the past, and grant that with a new abode we may put away all our idols, begin a new life, and still more abundantly partake of thy grace and goodness. Be Thou honoured, O God, in our family abode. Let the Spirit be poured upon us, and our household be a Christian household, and our family thine from the beginning; so may we dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in a sure dwelling, and in a quiet resting-place. Above all be Thou, O Lord, our dwelling-place in all generations, and our strong habitation whereunto we may continually resort, in health, in sickness, in life, in death, in judgment and through eternity, for our Redeemer's sake.

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY ABOUT TO JOURNEY.

Bless, O Lord, especially, we pray Thee, [those members]

of our family who are about to leave home, for the journey which is now before [them.] Let the designed end of the journey be accomplished. Make [them] a blessing wherever [they] go, and bring [them] back in peace, if it be thy will, at the appointed time, to our beloved home. Oh how many are the mercies for which we have here to praise Thee! We would receive them as coming only from thy hand, and as earnests and pledges of higher blessings yet to come, in our Father's house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

FOR MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY ABSENT.

We commit unto Thee those members [that member] of our family now absent from us. Be with them [him or her] watch over, guide, guard, and bless them. Let no evil happen to body or to soul. Let prayer for one another still bring us together daily before Thee. Let all the designed benefits of the absence be fully realized, and let us meet in peace again, and to praise together thy loving-kindness.

THANKSGIVING ON THE RETURN HOME OF THOSE ABSENT.

We bless Thee, O our God, for thy great goodness, in re-assembling us once more around the throne of thy grace in family worship, and for all thy protecting care, and thy many providential mercies to those who have been journeying, as well as to those who have remained at home. The Lord has been our keeper; he has preserved our going out and our coming in, and he shall preserve us from all evil. Let us live to his praise, and continually be greater helps and blessings to one another.

BEFORE THE VISIT OF A FRIEND.

Bless, Lord, all who come under our roof. Bless the

friend whom we this day expect; let us both gain and impart spiritual benefits during his [her] visit: let us be honoured to assist one another in the way to heaven: and our intercourse be holy and edifying, such as we shall look back upon with pleasure in thy heavenly kingdom. For Jesus's sake. Amen.

BIRTH-DAY IN A FAMILY.

We bless Thee, O our God, for another year added to the years of one of our beloved family, and we earnestly pray together that this birth-day may be a season of special grace and spiritual blessedness; in a humbling and grateful recollection of that which is past, and in fresh purposes in thy strength to give the remaining portion of our time here below, more unreservedly to thy service. Oh let the great end of life, thy glory in our own salvation, and an abundant sowing of seed for a future harvest of eternal blessedness, be more and more accomplished in us all.

A SERVANT LEAVING THE FAMILY.

We commit unto Thee that servant of our family who is about to leave us this day, humbling ourselves before Thee for anything wrong in thy sight, in our past relations to one another, in us, or in [her,] thanking Thee for any benefits received or communicated, and beseeching Thee to guard [her] and us from all spiritual danger in these changes, to bless them to our souls' welfare, and to grant that we may be increasing blessings to all around us.

A SERVANT'S COMING INTO THE FAMILY.

We desire to welcome into our household another member of our family, beseeching Thee, who hast appointed the various stations of life, for grace to fulfil our several duties to thy glory. Let the master rule as knowing that

he has a Master in heaven, with whom is no respect of persons, and ever giving that which is just and equal ; and let the servants labour, not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but with good-will, doing service from the heart, as unto the Lord and not unto men ; knowing that of the Lord they shall receive the reward of the inheritance.

FOR DIRECTION IN CHOOSING A SERVANT.

O Lord, who dost direct all things which concern thy people for their good, we beseech Thee send to us a suitable and faithful servant for our family, who shall be a help and comfort to the whole household, and both do good and get good under our roof. Feeling our own darkness and ignorance, and danger of being deceived, we ask of Thee guidance and direction, in this as in everything connected with the welfare of our family.

IN TIME OF SICKNESS IN A FAMILY.

O Thou who art the only true God, the God who lives for ever, who alone kills and makes alive, who wounds and heals, and there is no God beside Thee, we desire now especially to look to Thee in behalf of that member [those members] of our family now suffering from sickness. Often have we had to praise Thee for unmingled mercies of health and comfort, and for an overflowing cup of goodness : we would see and acknowledge the same hand of love in the present affliction, and looking at the many mercies mingled with it, say from the heart, Blessed be the name of the Lord. Graciously sanctify it to us all. Let thy design of love in it be accomplished. Let us now feel that if one member suffer, all the members suffer with it. In tender sympathy we would then pray for the recovery of the sick, and so we beseech Thee to grant that when one member is comforted all the members may rejoice, for Jesus' sake.

IN TIME OF AFFLICTION.

O our God, the Father of our spirits, who never chastenest us but for our profit, help us to believe that whom Thou lovest Thou chastenest, and scourgest all the sons whom Thou dost receive. Let us lift up, then, the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and by full confidence in thy wisdom and goodness, and having entire love to Thee, make straight paths for our feet, that that which is lame may be healed. We would return unto the Lord, for he hath torn and he will heal us ; he hath smitten and he will bind us up : he will revive us and raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

O let the holy directions and gracious promises of thy word be written in our hearts ; and do Thou make us so strong in faith, that they may have a living, sustaining, abiding, and comforting power in the midst of every trial and affliction here below. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

THANKSGIVING ON RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

Bless the Lord, O our souls, and all that is within us, bless his holy name, who forgives all our iniquities, who heals all our diseases, who redeems our life from destruction, and who crowns us with loving-kindness and tender mercies. Especially we render our grateful thanksgivings unto Thee, at this time, for the recovery of that member of our family who has been sick. It is to thy goodness we owe this recovery. It is through thy mercy, that this sickness has not been unto death. Let all thy goodness herein be ever gratefully remembered by us. Let our faith be strengthened, our hope in Thee confirmed, and our love increased ; and let us all, with more devoted hearts, henceforth live unto thy praise, through Jesus our Redeemer.

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE FROM AFFLICTION.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. We found trouble and sorrow, we called upon the name of the Lord, and he helped us : let our souls therefore return unto their true rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with us ; and let us walk before him with a believing, loving, and devoted heart all the days of our life. We will bless the Lord from this time forth and for evermore.

FOR A SICK CHILD.

Blessed Jesus, who when the nobleman's son was sick at Capernaum and at the point of death, didst hear his prayer, and speak the life-giving words—Thy son liveth ; who didst heal the only child of one, for whom thy disciples could do nothing ; and didst answer the believing and persevering prayer of the woman of Canaan for her daughter ; we beseech Thee look upon us in our present affliction ; and if it be thy holy will, remove the present sickness, and recover and raise up our dear child, that we may together praise and bless Thee, our only Lord and Saviour : but give us grace to resign all we are, or have, unto Thee, and to say from the heart,—in everything, the will of the Lord be done !

THANKSGIVING FOR THE RECOVERY OF A CHILD.

What thanks can we render unto Thee, O God our Saviour, for this thy mercy to our beloved child ! When [he] was sick, nigh unto death, Thou hadst mercy on [him], and not on [him] only, but on us also, lest we should have had sorrow upon sorrow. All glory be to thy holy name : let this sickness be to thy glory, and yield

peaceable fruits of righteousness, in us who have been exercised thereby.

PRAYER ON THE SICKNESS OF A MINISTER.

O Lord Jesus Christ, we bless Thee who hast given to thy church the ministers of thy word, for the perfecting of the saints, and the edifying of the body of Christ. Thou didst, when on earth, heal all manner of sickness and disease, and Thou art the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever; we come to Thee in behalf of him by whom thy word has been ministered to us, now laid aside from his duties. We beseech Thee to have mercy not on him only, but on us also; and, if it be thy will, speedily to restore him to health and strength, and to his accustomed labours among us. Sanctify this affliction greatly to his and our good, and to thy glory, for thy great name's sake. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE RECOVERY OF A MINISTER.

O Lord our God, who alone bringest down to the grave, and who alone healest all our diseases; we give Thee glory for thy mercy to us and to thy minister, in raising him up and restoring him to us again. Give unto him fresh and enlarged measures of thy Holy Spirit, that he may labour among us in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ. Grant unto us all grace more duly to prize and more diligently to improve our spiritual advantages. While the day of salvation is prolonged, let none of us receive thy grace in vain. Help us to hear thy word, to obey thy Gospel, and walk in all thy commandments blameless, to-day, while it is called to-day, through Jesus our Redeemer. Amen.

FOR A SERVANT IN THE FAMILY WHEN SICK.

O blessed Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, who when the

Centurion came unto Thee for his sick servant, didst immediately answer, I will come and heal him, we call upon Thee for our sick servant, beseeching Thee to heal him [or her.] Thou hast all power in heaven and in earth, speak Thou the word only, and our servant shall be healed, our faith strengthened, and our souls have fresh cause to bless thy saving name.

THANKSGIVING FOR A SERVANT RESTORED TO HEALTH.

O Lord, we bless Thee for thy goodness in restoring our servant to health again. Oh that, like the healed Samaritan leper, we may glorify Thee in giving thanks for thy mercies, and be strengthened thereby to walk in thy ways, with gladness and increased faith and love. Give our restored servant grace to walk before Thee henceforth, in a grateful sense of thy mercy, and in true holiness and righteousness of life.

IN TIME OF GENERAL SICKNESS.

Unto Thee, Lord, we commit all the circumstances of this day : not a sparrow falleth to the ground without thy knowledge. Unto Thee, in the midst of the general and dangerous sickness, which, for our sinfulness, Thou hast sent at this time, we commit sickness and health, for they are thy servants. Oh let all the uncertainties and dangers, changes and deaths, of this troubled scene, lead us to thyself, wean us from this world, and preserve us from fixing our hopes here. Give us to look forward to that land, where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, but perfect holiness, peace, and love. Give us a more constant hope of thy glory, that we may be raised above the darkness of this lower world, the cares, doubts, and anxieties of this mortal life, and the gloom of sin and unbelief. Let us view this life merely as a time of preparation for that blessedness. Make thy love our stay, our

guide, and our support, in the time of need, the hour of death, the day of judgment, and through the countless ages of eternity.

PRAYER IN PROSPECT OF TRIALS.

O Lord, we commit unto Thee all our hopes and fears, in the prospect of what is before us. What time we are afraid, we will trust in Thee. Do Thou enable us to wait only on Thee, and to pour out our hearts unto Thee, and not be afraid of evil tidings. Do Thou give unto us a fixed heart, stayed on Thee, and trusting in Thee, that so we may possess perfect peace. And at length give us, in the happy issue of our present fears, fresh and abundant cause to speak good of thy name, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PERPLEXITIES AND TROUBLES.

O Lord Jesus Christ, whose blessed apostle Paul was troubled on every side, perplexed but not in despair, cast down, but not destroyed, and who has told us that we too, through much tribulation, must enter the kingdom of heaven, we implore thy guidance and direction in our present difficulties: give us singleness of eye, that our whole body may be full of light; give us, above all, to attend to the one thing needful. Strengthen our confidence in Thee, direct our paths in thy ways. Let us find now, that though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day: and let us hereafter abundantly and joyfully discover that our light affliction, which is but for a moment, has wrought out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Hear us, for thy name's sake.

HEAVY CALAMITIES.

O Lord, we call upon Thee who hast so graciously en-

couraged us to seek Thee in trouble, saying, Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee, and Thou shalt glorify me. Thou art our only refuge, and a very present help in time of trouble. We beseech Thee then to succour us at this time. Give us faith: give us patience: give us grace to glorify Thee, and honour thy name by full confidence in Thee, and entire unmurmuring submission to thy holy will. Oh grant that this affliction may not harden us, nor make us despair. Let us neither despise it, nor faint under it. Give us to see in it tokens for our best good. Let it work patience, experience, and hope. And when thy purpose of love is thereby wrought in us, beyond all our hopes, let the dark clouds hanging over us be scattered, and the bright light of thy love cheer and refresh our souls, through Jesus our Redeemer.

DEATH IN A FAMILY.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who art the resurrection and the life, who didst thyself weep over the dead, and wert full of compassion toward the weeping widow of Nain, and who dost truly sympathize with us in all our griefs and sorrows, of whom may we seek for succour but of Thee, O Lord! Though by our sins we have justly displeased Thee, and death is the wages of sin, yet blessed be thy name, we are called upon to look to Thee as the Conqueror of sin, and death, and the grave: and we believe that the saying shall yet be fulfilled, Death is swallowed up in victory.

But, O Lord, be with us at this time, and greatly sanctify to us all, this removal of one from the midst of us. Let the solemn lessons taught by it be deeply and abidingly impressed on our hearts. Oh let us see what a vapour our life is. Oh let us turn to Thee with our whole hearts, in true repentance and in lively faith. Let no repining or murmuring dishonour our Christian profession. We would confide in Thee for all that is to come—ourselves consider our latter end—and be prepared to meet our God

in that day when our spirit shall return to him. Hear us for thy name's sake.

WHEN THE DEATH HAS BEEN TRULY CHRISTIAN.

What thanks we owe to Thee for the happy departure in the Lord of our beloved friend, and that we have so joyful a hope that death was great gain, and that our departed [brother] is now with Christ, which is far better. O Lord, let so blessed an end quicken us to full confidence in Jesus, and entire devotedness to his service.

TIME OF RIOTS AND INSUBORDINATION.

O Lord God of our Fathers, art Thou not God in heaven, and rulest Thou not over all, and in thy hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand Thee? Thou art the God, even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. Thine eyes are upon the ways of man, and Thou seest all his goings. There is no darkness nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves from Thee. Do Thou give quietness, and none can make trouble. Do Thou who stillest the noise of the waves, still the tumult of the people. Break Thou the power of the ungodly and malicious. Make the wrath of man to praise Thee, and the remainder of wrath do Thou restrain. And in the midst of all outward disquietude, let us and all thy people be able to testify, He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty, and shall say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in him will I trust. Grant that all this shaking of earthly things may lead us, more gladly and fully, to receive that kingdom which cannot be moved, and to serve Thee acceptably, with reverence and godly fear, through Jesus our Redeemer.

FOR RAIN.

O Thou who, when the heaven is shut up and there is no rain, because we have sinned against Thee, hast taught us in thy word to pray unto Thee, acknowledge thy hand, and turn from our sins and Thou wilt hear us—we acknowledge our sinfulness, and come unto Thee. We beseech Thee now to visit the earth, and to water it with the showers from above, that we may receive the fruits of it in due season, through Jesus our Redeemer.

FOR FAIR WEATHER.

O Lord, we have justly deserved immoderate rain, and to be deprived thereby of the fruits of the earth ; but it is thy faithful covenant, of which the bow in the cloud is to us a sure token, that there shall not any more be a flood to destroy the earth, and that while the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. The eyes of all wait upon Thee : give them their meat in due season ; and let us learn righteousness by thy chastisements, and thankfulness by thy mercies, through Jesus our Redeemer.

THANKS FOR RAIN.

O Thou who waterest the hills from thy chambers, and the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works, we bless Thee for sending this gracious rain upon thine inheritance, and refreshing it when it was weary, that Thou mayest bring forth food out of the earth, and bread to strengthen us. Descend upon us and all thy churches, as rain upon the mown grass, and make us fruitful in every good word and work, for Jesus Christ's sake.

THANKS FOR FAIR WEATHER.

O Thou who art as the light of the morning when the

sun rises, even as a morning without clouds, as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain, we thank Thee and give Thee praise for this seasonable and blessed change of weather. O let us ever praise the Lord for his goodness, and give unto him the honour due unto his name. Shine into our hearts, and make us joyful in Thee all our days, through Jesus our Redeemer.

IN WINTER.

We bless Thee, O Lord, for the abundant provision which Thou hast made for all our wants; that while others at this inclement season are almost without food to eat, clothes to cover them, or fire to warm them, we have all which we need. Oh give us thankful hearts for our own mercies, and feeling hearts for the wants of others. Look, O Lord, in pity on a world made more desert and desolate by sin, than the earth by the snows and severity of winter—upon men, more barren and unfruitful than the ground which is hardened by the ice and frost. Oh let them learn to fear Thee, and so let the glorious Sun of Righteousness rise upon them with healing in his wings. Hear us, for his name's sake.

IN SUMMER AND HARVEST.

O Thou good and gracious God, who openest thy hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness, we praise Thee that according to thy gracious promise, while the earth remains, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night do not cease. Thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice. Thou visitest the earth and waterest it. Thou preparest them corn. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness, and thy paths drop fatness. The eyes of all wait upon thee, and Thou givest them their meat in due season. And if we have to thank Thee for this provision for our bodies, how much more have we to thank Thee

for the feast which Thou hast provided in the gospel for all our spiritual necessities; and for the Sun of Righteousness, warming, healing, and cheering us, and maturing our souls, we trust, for the heavenly harvest. Lord, grant that we may be continually ripening, till, like as a shock of corn comes in its season, we are gathered to our heavenly home. Hear us, for Christ's sake.

VACANCY IN A BISHOPRIC.

O Lord, mercifully dispose the minds of all to whom Thou hast given power and authority to appoint another bishop in our church, to call to that high and responsible office, a faithful, and wise, and devoted minister of thy word, who shall be a full blessing to our church and country.

CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATION.

Graciously, O our God, do Thou call to places of authority and power in the state able men, who fear Thee and hate coveteousness, and who, like Joseph and Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah, shall use the power entrusted to them for the prosperity of thy church, the good of our country, the maintenance of true religion, and the glory of thy great name.

VACANCY IN THE PARISH MINISTER.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who holdest the stars in thy right hand, and appointest to every one his station to serve Thee; we earnestly beseech Thee to send a faithful steward of thy mysteries to rule over us, and watch for our souls; a pastor after thy heart to feed us with knowledge and understanding. We deserve not so great a blessing, but Thou hast received gifts for us, and we beseech Thee to bestow this gift upon us.

PRAYER TO BE USED BY SOLDIERS.*

O Lord God of Hosts, King of kings, and governor of all things, Thou alone givest victory unto kings in the day of battle, and makest war to cease in all the earth.

Bless, O Lord, this day, the work of our hands; yea, prosper Thou our handywork.

Grant us, as good soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ, to be faithful to Him, the Captain of our salvation, and to follow Him for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, who bringeth many sons to glory, and was made perfect through suffering. Let us, as directed in thy word, do violence to no man, nor accuse any falsely, and be content with our allowance; let us be devout and fear Thee, and pray to Thee always, may we fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life.

Bless our Sovereign lady Queen Victoria, with her royal consort, the Prince Albert, and all the royal family; especially the Prince of Wales: let him grow up, in thy strength, to be a good soldier of Christ; and if hereafter he shall have just cause for war against the enemies of his kingdom, let him, according to the rule of thy word, be strong and courageous, having the Lord of Hosts with him to fight his battles.

We pray Thee to endow with every spiritual and earthly blessing her Majesty the Queen: grant her to reign long and gloriously. Guide Thou her councils by thy godly wisdom. Let her soldiers love honour, and serve her with fidelity, as the Lord's anointed. Let no unjust aggressions, no worldly ambition, ever bring thy curse upon our armies or our nation. Let thy blessing rest upon us in every cause of righteousness; and do Thou go before our armies, Thou God of battles, as Thou didst before thy chosen people of old. Let our soldiers ever fight for truth and righteousness and peace: make them brave, and merciful,

* Taken chiefly from a prayer by the Dean of Windsor, on the consecration of the standard of the 72nd Highlanders, the day after the baptism of the Prince of Wales, Jan. 26, 1842.

and temperate ; faithful to their earthly sovereign, and obedient to the commands of their heavenly King. Give peace in our time, O Lord ; but if our soldiers are sent forth to war, let them be armed with the shield and buckler, which Thou alone, O God, canst give ; and fill them with a sure trust in thy providence. Take Thou, at all times, their cause into thy hand, O Thou that judgest right ; and be their defence against the face of their enemy. Grant unto them, and all of us, such a measure of thy grace as may enable us to withstand all the enemies of thy salvation : and manfully so to fight, under the banner of the great Captain of our salvation, that finally we may be received into the rest and peace of the eternal and heavenly kingdom, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

PRAYER TO BE USED BY SAILORS.

O Lord Jesus Christ, God over all, blessed for ever, who didst become man for us, and didst shew thy divine power over the sea, by walking upon its waves, and stilling, at thy command, all its tumult ; we bless Thee that Thou hast thus taught us thy power to help and to save us, and hast shown thy care for those who go down in ships on the deep. Help us ever to feel that Thou art near to us, our Saviour and our Friend. Help us to know that Thou art not only a deliverer from the dangers of the sea, but also a Saviour from the far more fearful dangers of sin ; that Thou canst not only still the storms raging over the deep, but also calm the more serious tempest of evil passions and raging lusts within our hearts and in the world. O Lord Jesus, who has redeemed us from all iniquity, purify us unto thyself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Wherever we go, whatever place we visit, let us ever act as it becometh thy true and faithful disciples. Let us never be ashamed of thy gospel. Give us to confess thy name and spread thy praises ; and at length restore us to our own home and country, without having, by our sins,

dishonoured thy name, or brought reproach on thy gospel. O heavenly Father, hear us, for our Redeemer's sake.

PRAYER FOR THE USE OF A CLERICAL MEETING.

Almighty Father, the God of peace and love, who hast called us to the ministry of thy word and united us together as fellow-workers with Thee, and who hast granted us the high privilege to be ministers of Christ and stewards of thy mysteries, we give Thee praise for all thy grace and goodness so freely bestowed upon us.

Now met together in the name of Jesus, our great Lord and Master, for mutual help and edification in that arduous and awfully responsible work which Thou hast given us to fulfil, we earnestly implore thy presence and blessing. We desire to acknowledge before Thee our sinfulness and our weakness. We are insufficient of ourselves to think anything of ourselves ; our whole sufficiency is of Thee. Oh let thy sufficient grace help us in all our infirmities, and ever enable us to seek thy glory in the salvation of our fellow-men.

Graciously pour out thy Spirit upon us. Grant that the Holy Ghost may ever dwell in us. Help us to consider one another, to provoke unto love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, but exhorting, comforting, and edifying one another in love, and so much the more as we see the day of Christ approaching. Give to each one of us at this time some seasonable and suitable instruction, and help us in our duties, so that we may impart to each other spiritual gifts, and be comforted together by our mutual faith. May we all be brought nearer to Christ Jesus, our Lord ; abide more in him, and be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

[We earnestly beseech Thee to increase our faith : give us to abound in hope, and fill us with love. Oh quicken our souls to all diligence in thy work, and to a faithful, self-denying, and laborious fulfilment of our great and

most holy trust as thy stewards. Never may we forget that we are the Lord's watchmen, and that if the wicked perish through our neglect, his blood will be required of us. Let none of us serve Thee by constraint nor for filthy lucre; let none of us seek dominion over the faith of others, nor act as lords over God's heritage. Grant us all heavenly wisdom and grace to feed thy people willingly, and of a ready mind, and to be ourselves examples to the flock. Give us holy boldness, patience, and persevering love. Give us the tongue of the learned, to know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary. Help us to labour to be accepted of Thee, and make us workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.]

O Lord, do Thou make us wise to win souls: accounting this our chief wisdom and our great gain. Thus may we obtain the blessedness and glory of those who turn many to righteousness, and who shall find them to be their joy and crown of rejoicing in the day of Christ.

We commit, O Lord, our respective parishes and flocks unto Thee. We earnestly beseech Thee to pour out thy Spirit upon them, and to give an effectual blessing to every effort which we make for the salvation of our fellow-sinners. Bless our schools and teachers, and all who help us in them. Prosper our religious and benevolent societies. Grant that multitudes may, through our ministry, be brought to repentance towards Thee, and to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and so, with us, may attain eternal life. Give to us every one the full joy of seeing spiritual children walking in the truth and adorning the doctrine of God our Saviour. Let them be filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ to thy praise and glory. Oh that at last we may have to give account of those committed to our trust, not with grief but with joy.

Prepare each of us, and prepare also thy people committed to our charge, for the coming, the judgment, and the kingdom of our Divine Redeemer. Let none of us be like the wicked and slothful servant, who deceives himself

by saying in his heart, My Lord delayeth his coming. Let us rather be sober, and watch unto prayer. Grant unto all of us to be faithful and wise servants in the household in which thy Providence has placed us, giving to all their meat in due season, that they may be ready when the Son of Man cometh.

Oh that without exception every one of us may, in our measure, be the salt of the earth, never losing its savour, and the light of the world, so shining by our good works that Thou our Father mayest be glorified. Grant that every one of us may now preach the word, be instant in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine, watch in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of evangelists, and make full proof of our ministry. Oh grant that when the Lord Jesus Christ shall judge the quick and dead at his appearing and kingdom, we may have addressed to each one of us, those gracious words, Well done, thou good and faithful servant; Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make Thee ruler over many things: enter Thou into the joy of thy Lord.

Bless the whole Church of Christ in every land, and especially that part of thy church to which we belong. Bless all in authority over us, both in church and in state. Send forth labourers into the harvest. Bring in the fulness of the Gentiles, and let all Israel be saved. Let thy kingdom come, and the whole earth be filled with thy glory. Hear us for his name's sake, even Jesus, our Lord, to whom with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, three persons in one God, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Family Intercessions.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH OF GOD.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to send thy blessing on thy whole church now militant here upon earth, and exposed to innumerable snares and temptations, dangers and enemies. We praise Thee for the thousands and tens of thousands who have in all ages been gathered unto Thee, for the thousands now walking in thy heavenly ways; but O let the coming years before the advent of our Lord, be years of special and enlarged blessing. Bring multitudes into thy fold. Let the last days of thy church be her best days, and bounteous floods of blessing be poured upon her from on high. Bless especially our own beloved land, from the Queen on the throne, to the humblest of her subjects; from the bishops of our church through its ministers, to the youngest child. Let plenteous streams of grace descend upon us, from that pure and living fountain, which flows from the throne of God. Accomplish, O Lord, the restoration of Israel: fulfil the promises so long delayed, let the waste places of Judah rejoice and be glad; and O hasten that glorious consummation of righteousness and love, the return of our blessed Lord. Let us be found waiting and watching for him: let our lamps never grow dim, nor our loins be ungirt, our faith never fail, nor our love grow cold, till the sound be echoed from the songs of angels and archangels,—Behold the bridegroom cometh! —and then may we all, without one exception, enter in with him to the marriage, for his name's sake.

FOR BISHOPS, PRIESTS, AND DEACONS, AND ALL THE MINISTERS OF CHRIST.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the chief Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, who, when Thou didst ascend on high, and lead captivity captive, didst give gifts to men ;—some apostles, some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers ; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying of the body of Christ, we beseech Thee graciously to look upon the bishops and pastors of thy flocks, and upon all whom Thou dost call to minister thy gospel, and feed thy church, and pour upon them thy abundant blessing.

O Lord, greatly enrich them with spiritual gifts and endowments, according to thy infinite fulness and the multiplied wants of thy church. Raise up sons of thunder, to awaken the careless ; sons of consolation, to comfort the mourner ; eloquent men to convince mightily the ignorant ; good men full of the Holy Ghost, that much people may be added to the Lord ; faithful men like Timothy, naturally caring for the state of their people ; and devout men like Epaphras, always labouring fervently for them in prayer. According to thine inexhaustible fulness, supply all the wants of thy people in every place, that thy unsearchable riches may be fully made known.

And, O Lord, uphold thy ministers, and strengthen them that their faith fail not. Make them wise to win souls. Endue their words with heavenly power : let them be like fire, burning away the dross, and like the dew, strengthening, reviving, and refreshing the hearts of thy people. Send them help from thy sanctuary, and strengthen them out of Zion, so that thy word may have free course, and be glorified in all the earth. Hear us, for thy name's sake.

FOR PROTESTANT AND REFORMED CHURCHES.

O Lord Jesus Christ, we thank Thee for thy special

grace and loving-kindness to thy church in past days. When corruption and apostacy, and the worship of saints and idols, of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which neither can see nor hear nor walk, had overspread thy whole visible church, how graciously at that time didst Thou in thy tender mercy appear for thy people !

We bless Thee, O Lord, for so plenteously pouring out thy Spirit upon thy servants, and raising up the blessed Reformers to hold forth the light of thy truth. All glory be to thy holy name, for that remarkable revival of the gospel of the grace of God, and for the establishment of churches holding thy truth in its purity throughout Christendom.

But we acknowledge before Thee how soon thy truth became again obscured, and its progress hindered, by the multiplied divisions and strifes of thy sinful creatures. We confess that multitudes in the Protestant and reformed churches have but a name to live while they are dead, and their works are not found perfect before Thee our God.

O Lord, give thy churches grace to be watchful, and to strengthen the things which remain and are ready to die. O Lord, help them to remember how they have received and heard, and to hold fast and repent. Let our own church be especially thus assisted and blessed of Thee. Give a new and enlarged spirit of union to all thy churches and people, holding Thee the Head. Bring multitudes wholly out of Babylon, that they may be delivered from her plagues. Let the Jews be speedily grafted in again, and thus be as life from the dead to the world. O hear us, for thy name's sake.

PRAYER FOR UNITY AMONG CHRISTIANS.

O Thou good and gracious Father, who art in thy Son, our Lord Jesus, and he in Thee, in union inexpressibly entire and complete, and who wouldest have all thy people one in the Father and the Son, we entreat Thee to take away all things which prevent and hinder this perfect

union. Everywhere grant grace to thy children to be like-minded, having the same love; being of one accord, and of one mind. Remove all schisms and divisions, jealousies and debates, strifes and contentions. Let us not judge our brother: let us not set him at nought, but let us rather judge this, that no man put a stumbling-block, or an occasion to fall, in his brother's way. Give us that most excellent gift of love, which suffers long and is kind, envieth not, is not puffed up, covers all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things: seeks not its own, is not easily provoked, and thinks no evil; rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth. Give unto us a right judgment in all things: so increase our knowledge of divine truth, that we may be more and more joined together as one man, in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God. Give us to be subject one to another in the fear of God, and to be clothed with humility. Oh let all the churches of Christ holding the Head, notwithstanding outward differences, walk so far as they have already attained, by the same rule, and mind the same thing; be of one heart and of one soul; speak the truth in love, and grow up into him in all things which is the Head, even Christ. Grace be with all them who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Do thou at length bring in the fulness of the Gentiles and the lost sheep of the house of Israel, that thus there may be one fold under one Shepherd, even Jesus our Redeemer.

PRAYER FOR UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

O Lord, hear our earnest supplications unto Thee, in behalf of all universities, colleges, and seminaries, for sound and useful learning. Bless especially those who are there preparing to be ministers and missionaries, or to occupy important stations of trust in the service of their country. We humbly beseech Thee, very graciously to pour out thy Spirit upon all the heads and masters, minis-

ters, teachers and professors of these institutions, and on all engaged in instruction. O grant such a large measure of thy grace to all there educating for thy service, that there may continually go forth from them, not only men qualified to serve their country, but also able ministers of the New Testament, taught by thine own Spirit, and made faithful stewards of the mysteries of Christ.

PRAYER FOR JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES.

O Lord, who hast appointed various orders and degrees of men, that each in his vocation may serve Thee, and benefit their fellow-men, we pray for all whom Thou hast appointed to stations of authority. We beseech Thee especially for judges and magistrates, who are thy ministers for good, for the praise of those that do well, and to execute thy wrath on those who do evil. Strengthen them to fulfil their important office faithfully. Give them grace to fear Thee, to act truly and uprightly, to hate covetousness, punish evil-doers, and establish truth and righteousness to the glory of thy name, and that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY.

We bless Thee, O Lord, for the mercies shown unto our favoured land. Make us, as we ought to be, grateful for the blessings which we enjoy as its citizens; and oh grant that the past deliverances of Britain may be earnests of future mercies. Visit not upon us the open wickedness and blasphemy which have place in our borders : preserve us from all dangers without, and from the still greater dangers which threaten us within. Bless those in authority : pour upon them such a measure of thy grace, that they may be made a blessing to the people committed to their charge. Give unto us as a nation, that faith which overcometh all things : so that, serving God and working

righteousness, we may be a joy and praise in the whole earth. Make thy people more powerful intercessors both for our church and country, that even from this isle of the sea, thousands and tens of thousands may join the hosts of thy redeemed, and every corner of our land be an altar from whence the sweet incense of praise shall arise unto Thee. For thine own name's sake. Amen.

FOR THE PARLIAMENT.

Bless the meeting of parliament to the great advantage and welfare of our country: direct, control, and prosper, all their deliberations for the best good of this land. Assist our statesmen and legislators to bring forward healing and beneficial measures, and for the welfare of all. Make our country a light among the nations, holding forth the word of life. Let our colonies, instead of propagating vice, spread around the pure light of thy gospel. Turn from us all those judgments which our sins have most righteously deserved, and let all our wealth, power, and commerce be used to promote thy glory. Let us fear none but Thee, and seek to please none but Thee; and pleasing Thee alone, look to Thee alone for protection, to Thee alone for greatness; and always render to Thee the honour and glory due to thy great name, through Jesus our Redeemer.

FOR OUR GREAT CITIES.*

Almighty God, the King of nations, who hast raised up great cities until Thou hast made their merchants princes, and their traffickers the honourable of the earth, and hast brought them low again, because they have sinned and have not honoured Thee with their substance; grant that we, being admonished by their example, may not likewise perish. Thou hast clothed our fields with

* Altered from a prayer used at the laying of the stone of the new Royal Exchange, by Prince Albert, Jan. 17, 1842.

plenty, and prospered our commerce : Thou hast crowned our arms with victory, and blessed us with the happy prospect of the continuance of peaceful government : O let not our hearts be lifted up within us, nor pride obtain dominion over us ; but so increase our faith in thy directing providence, that we may give all the glory of our prosperity to Thee, who orderest all things according to the pleasure of thy will.

Let us as a nation be deeply humbled before Thee, on account of the wickedness of the people, the luxury and pride and dissipation of the higher orders, the profligacy and open wickedness of the lower, the fearful neglect of thy worship and service among all classes, and the want of due provision for the religious instruction of the poor. We mourn before Thee for the abominations done in the midst of us, and beseech Thee to spare us and to give us true repentance. In this our day of grace, incline our hearts to trust in the Lord Jesus alone, and to live to his glory.

May our merchants, regarding themselves as stewards of thy bounties, be ever guided in their acquisition of wealth by thy holy law, conducting their dealings with strict integrity, and never going beyond or defrauding one another. And in their expenditure of honourable gains, let them labour to further thy kingdom upon earth, and the well-being and salvation of their fellow-men. Hear and answer this our prayer, most gracious God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH.

We thank Thee, Lord, for what Thou hast already done for this parish, and for every token of thy goodness to us, humbling ourselves before Thee for our own unprofitableness and sinfulness. We would now beseech Thee to do so far more ; for Thou hast said, "Ask, and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find : call upon me and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things

that thou knowest not." We would then, with one heart and with ardent desire, ask that thy Spirit may be poured upon all this parish. O Thou, who baptizest with the Holy Ghost and with fire, pour out upon it the Spirit of judgment and burning, to purify and cleanse the wickedness of this place; the Spirit of light and truth to shed abroad in the hearts of the people holiness, wisdom, peace, and love; the Spirit of grace and supplication to teach them earnestly to pray unto Thee.

Let thy word sink deeper into the hearts of the people; let it be more read, prayed over, and delighted in here, and bring forth more fruit in their lives. Bless every ordinance: and whenever we meet in the courts of thy holiness, make our worship an image of that in the courts above. As Thou hast raised our Saviour from the dead, so let every soul here be raised from the death of sin. Let thy people here no more grovel in the earth: enable them to rise on the wings of faith and of hope, to view that glory which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee. Prepare us, Lord, to be more a blessing to this place. Make us so happy in thy love, that we may spread this happiness among others. Let grace and peace so rest upon us, that they may beam through us on all around. Let us never live to ourselves, but to him who has loved us, and given himself for us; and let not our feeblest efforts be unblest by Thee;—for Christ's sake.

FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN ARDUOUS DUTIES.

O Lord, we bless Thee, that Thou hast united thy people as one body, so that if one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; and if one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. O Thou who hast taught us ever to sympathize with one another, and to seek the good of the whole body, we desire to commit unto Thee our beloved brethren, whom Thou art calling to great and arduous duties in thy church, in withstanding the adversaries of thy truth, and upholding works of righteousness

and mercy. Make them bold in the strength of God. Make them stedfast, unmoveable, and always abounding in thy work. Uphold them with thy free Spirit. Teach them to be strong in faith. Give them the wisdom which cometh from above : and enable them to discern things that differ, to prove all things, and hold fast that which is good. Give them holy decision, patient and persevering zeal, and all the meekness and gentleness of Christ. Let love to Thee and to all men be the soul-quickening motive of their labours, and finally crown Thou them with success beyond their largest hopes and expectations, that they and we and all thy people may triumph in thy loving-kindness to thy church, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PRAYER FOR BENEFACTORS.

We desire, O our God, our great benefactor and friend, to thank Thee for the kindness and favours which we receive from our fellow-men, and we earnestly pray Thee to return them abundantly into their own bosoms all their love shown to us. Let them prosper and be in health, and especially let their souls prosper, and may the design of their kindness be fully answered in our grateful and happy enjoyment of thy goodness to us.

FOR THE AGED.

O Lord, we commend to Thee our aged friends, whom Thou hast so long graciously spared to us. Support, strengthen, and comfort them in all their infirmities and the weaknesses of old age. Make them partakers of thy special favour ; and let it be true of them, that a hoary head, found in the way of righteousness, is a crown of glory. When they descend to the grave, let it be in full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in his season. Hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

FOR CHILDREN.

O Lord, who hast committed to our trust the charge of children to help to bring them up to Thee, give us grace to train them up in the way they should go. Give us to use all parental and godly care and discipline over them. Give us wisely, constantly, and in the spirit of love, as they are able to bear it, to set before them the truths of thy word. Let us bear them on our hearts in secret prayer, and do Thou prosper all our efforts for their good. Let us consider how responsible and weighty our charge is, and glorify thy name by faithful diligence in the use of all the means of thy appointment, for their present and eternal welfare, through Jesus our Redeemer. Give our children grace to attend to the instructions given to them. Help them to remember their Creator in the days of their youth. Draw them to seek Thee while they are yet young, and so to obtain all the blessings of early finding Thee.

FOR PERSONS DEPENDENT ON US.

O God, from whom cometh all power and authority over others, and who hast entrusted to those at the head of this family many dependents, looking up to them for direction and government, graciously assist us in using so solemn and responsible a trust for the best good of those committed to our charge. O Lord, grant, we beseech Thee, that thy gifts of influence and power may be used for Thee, and for the spiritual as well as temporal welfare of those under us. Give them thy grace while under our care, and let them fulfil their duties to us, under the blessed principles of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thus may our relation together be blessed, not only for our present but for our eternal good.

FOR FRIENDS IN TRIAL.

O Lord, we commit unto Thee those dear friends of

whose trials and sorrows we have heard. We desire to sympathize with those in sorrow, and earnestly to call upon Thee in their behalf. O Lord, be unto them a very present help in time of trouble. Enable them to cast all their burden on Thee, and do Thou sustain them. Let this affliction work mightily for their highest and best good. Give them light in darkness, comfort in affliction, and joy in sorrow ; and let the peaceable fruits of righteousness be abundantly yielded from the present trials, so that they may have cause to say, now and for ever, that it was good for them that they have been afflicted. If it be thy will, speedily deliver them. O give them seasonable help and relief. Be Thou thyself their full portion : and however dark the trial, enable them to say with thy servant of old, The Lord God is my strength ; I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

THANKSGIVING FOR BLESSING TO FRIENDS.

O Lord, who hast told us to rejoice with them that do rejoice, we give Thee praise and thanks for thy great goodness to our beloved friends, in delivering them from their fears, and in bestowing mercies upon them. O let these thy mercies constrain us to trust Thee with our whole heart for the time to come, to rejoice in thy salvation, and to sing praises unto Thee because Thou hast dealt bountifully with us, thus helping and blessing those dear to us, through Jesus our Redeemer.

THREE PRAYERS FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS, ON A WEEK DAY.

1. We implore thy blessing, O Lord, upon this establishment for educating the young. Oh guide and direct all engaged in conducting it with heavenly wisdom, singleness of eye to please Thee, patient perseverance, and unfailing love. Grant that every child here may not only be instructed and prepared for filling their future stations in

life, with comfort to themselves and advantage to all around them, but also be trained up for thy service in this life, and for glory everlasting, even as the members of Christ, the children of God, and the inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Bless all the parents, relatives and friends of these children, with all spiritual blessings.

2. Prosper, O Lord, all our endeavours for the improvement of the understandings, and for the renewal of the hearts of those under our charge ; and bless all our plans for imparting to them sound and useful learning. Give us a single eye to thy glory, and to the best good of those here instructed. O God of all mercy, grant that every one may obtain mercy from Thee, become truly thine, be filled with thy Spirit, and from this time be devoted to Thee. Like Jesus, may they increase in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. Pour thy Spirit upon them, and all dear to them, and give to each of their families thy abundant blessing, for Jesus Christ's sake.

3. O Lord, from whom alone comes every good and perfect gift, give unto those at the head of this school, gifts and graces to qualify them for their weighty and important duties. Ever guide them to that which is right in thy sight. Grant unto them wisdom, decision, and firmness, to fulfil thy will, with all patient kindness and love. Crown their labours with such success, that all here taught may be trained up in the way in which they should go, and when they are old may not depart from it. O Thou who alone canst change the heart and renew the mind, create, we beseech Thee, a clean heart in every child ; renew a right spirit in every one here taught, and make them and their parents and relations happy in thy love and joyful in thy service.

A PRAYER FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS, ON THE SABBATH.

Lord, bless every one of us, on thy holy Sabbath, while occupied in thy more immediate service. We would set

apart thy day entirely for its holy duties. Oh give unto us, and to all the children here, and unto their parents and friends, and to all who with us call on the name of the Lord Jesus, both their Lord and ours, a real interest and joy in thy worship and service. Let no common reading or pleasures, or needless work, be pursued by us. Give us a heart to pray and to praise. Help us to love thy word, to read it in secret, and with prayer, with meditation, and with self-examination : and to rejoice in the assemblies of thy people. Grant that the word spoken by thy minister may sink into all our hearts. Sanctify us by thy truth ; make us free thereby from all the bondage of guilt and sin, and give us true liberty of heart to serve Thee, and delight in all thy ways.

Family Intercessions for Religious Societies.

BEFORE A MEETING OR SERMON TO PROMOTE CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS.

O Thou, who art the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, and who hast commanded those that make mention of thy name, not to keep silence, and to give Thee no rest, till Thou establish, and till Thou make Jerusalem a praise in the earth, we bless Thee that Thou hast put it into the hearts of thy people to seek the good of Sion, and permitted us to partake of this work of love. Prosper the meeting to be held [*or* sermon to be preached] this day. Assist every speaker to seek [*or* the preacher to speak to] thy glory, and every hearer gladly to receive the truths spoken, Quicken in us all fresh zeal, and give new love to make sacrifices, and practice joyful self-denial to make known the good tidings of thy grace to thy people Israel. Remove at length the veil from their minds, and enable them to see in Jesus Christ, our Lord, their long-expected and desired, their own Messiah, and to look unto Him whom they have pierced, and mourn for him, that thus Jews and Gentiles may become one fold under one Shepherd, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

AFTER A MEETING TO PROMOTE CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who camest as the minister of the circumcision to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and art now exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance unto Israel and remission of sins, we thank Thee that we too are permitted to seek their salvation. We bless Thee for the mercies of this day, and for the gathering together of thy people to forward this object. We thank Thee for the assistance given to those who speak in behalf of Israel. Let a permanent impression of the magnitude of this work be left on many hearts. Let thy holy word be more opened to us, and more precious to us. Let our attention be more directed to the many prophecies respecting Israel, and a love for Jerusalem be excited in all our hearts. Prepare us, prepare thy servants every where for the unfolding of all thy wonders of deep wisdom, judgment, and love, in thy dealings with both Jews and Gentiles, and the grafting in again of Israel, and the making of their reception again to be as life from the dead to the world. Let Jesus, the deliverer, quickly come out of Sion and turn away ungodliness from Jacob. Speedily accomplish thy promised grace and goodness, and have mercy upon all, through Jesus our Redeemer.

BEFORE GOSPEL PROPAGATION, OR MISSIONARY MEETINGS OR SERMONS.

O God the Father, who hast declared that Thou wilt have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth ; O God the Son, who gavest the command to thy church, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature ; O God the Holy Ghost, promised to all flesh in the last days ; the one living and true God —we bring before Thee a world lying in wickedness ; we plead with Thee for vast nations yet unblessed with the light of thy truth, and abandoning themselves to the

abominations of idolatry; and we beseech Thee to have mercy upon all men.

We thank Thee that Thou hast awakened thy church in our day, to a greater concern for the heathen, and to enlarged missionary exertions. But yet, O Lord, how feeble our zeal, how scanty our gifts, how cold our love! O set before us and all thy people the unspeakable value of immortal souls; the costly price of redemption, the travail of the Redeemer, the joy set before him, and the blessedness of saving souls from death. Let us discern the dishonour now put upon thy name by idolatry, and the holy happiness of the universal kingdom of Christ; that we may thus make efforts and sacrifices more corresponding to the magnitude of this great work.

Look in great pity and mercy upon benighted nations. Have respect unto the covenant, that in Christ all nations shall be blessed, and let thy saving light and health visit those dark places of the earth which have so long been, and are now, full of the habitations of cruelty. Raise up, great Lord of the harvest, faithful servants to carry on the mighty work which has been begun. Accept our poor gifts and feeble prayers, for the sake of the much incense offered up by our great High Priest. Bless every labourer, every missionary, every catechist, every teacher, every instructor, now among the heathen with large success. Let great and effectual doors be more and more opened, and every difficulty be overcome, and thy word have free course and be glorified. Let the little one become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation, and pure and prosperous churches of Christ be established in every land.

Oh hasten the blessed time when He, who was once mocked, scourged, crucified, and rejected of men, shall be crowned with honour and glory; and welcomed with glad acclamations by every people, kindred, tribe, and tongue, and worshipped in the joyful service and adoration of a redeemed and renewed universe. Hasten the day when new light and glory shall dawn upon the nations of

the earth, sorrow and sighing shall flee away, thy saints shall reign, and that glorious kingdom which shall never pass away, shall be fully established. Give us to view the true source of all this glory, Jesus crucified, and humbling himself to the death of the cross for us ; and through him may we even now be filled with all the riches of his grace, and the assured hope of his glory.

We pray that a special blessing may rest on the efforts made here at this time to advance this blessed cause. Assist with thy grace all who labour in this work of love. Stand by and strengthen preachers and speakers: bring together thy people, and give them a lively and growing interest for the increase of thy kingdom. Let them never be weary in well-doing, but fill them with joy in their own souls, while communicating the joyful tidings of salvation to others. Grant to them the happy experience of the truth of thy promises, Give, and it shall be given to you—Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Thus let missions to the heathen revive the church at home ; and in that revival, let missions multiply till the whole earth be prepared for thy return, and be filled with thy glory. Hear us, O our God, for our Redeemer's sake.

FOR CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, PRAYER-BOOK AND HOMILY, AND RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETIES.

O Lord, we bless Thee for all the efforts made in our land to diffuse true religion at home and abroad, and that Thou hast put it into the hearts of so many bountifully to aid in this work. Give heavenly wisdom, simple faith, holy love, godly jealousy, for the purity of thy truth, and unwearied zeal, to all engaged in these works of mercy. Multiply their numbers very greatly. Awaken a general interest among all classes to promote christian knowledge and piety, and the holy doctrines of the Reformation, in our own and in all countries. Let every effort prosper beyond all our hopes, and help to bring on rapidly the

happy day, when all shall know Thee, and the whole earth be filled with thy glory.

PRAYER BEFORE EFFORTS TO AID BIBLE SOCIETIES.

Father of light and Fountain of all wisdom, who hast given thy Holy Scriptures, by inspiration of the Holy Ghost, to be a light to our feet and a lamp to our paths, that we may be made wise unto salvation through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we bless and praise thy holy name, that the sacred treasure of thy word has been so long entrusted to us and exalted among us. We confess our national sinfulness, in not duly improving so great a talent ourselves, and in not communicating to others, as we might have done, this great benefit.

O Lord! all thanks be unto Thee that Thou hast put it into the hearts of thy people, to unite together to send thy word to all who need it, both at home and abroad; and that we have seen, as it were, since the blessed Reformation, the angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to every nation, and kindred and tongue, and people, that all may hear and read in their own tongue wherein they were born, the wonderful works of God, and multitudes be gathered into thy church and be prepared for the coming hour of judgment. Abundantly bless this good work. Guide aright all who conduct it. Preserve them from all mistakes and errors. Prosper all their labours. Bless all their meetings with godly simplicity, heavenly wisdom, and holy love; and especially prosper the efforts making for the furtherance of this work of love at this time among us. Let thy name be honoured and men be kept humble, and thy kingdom advanced, and the whole earth be prepared for the coming and universal dominion of our Divine Redeemer. Hear us, for his name's sake.

FOR CLERICAL AID AND PASTORAL AID SOCIETIES.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst testify, the harvest truly is great, and the labourers are few, and didst bid us—pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into the harvest: we desire to bring before Thee the destitute spiritual condition of our own land, where such multitudes are as sheep having no shepherd. O Lord, give Thou the word, and qualify and send forth a greatly increased number of labourers into the harvest. O Thou who hast ordained also that they who preach the gospel should live of the gospel, and that those who have freely received, should freely give, we pray Thee grant that we and all thy people who have so graciously received both temporal and spiritual blessings from Thee, may freely and gladly give to the support of all institutions formed to send forth an increasing number of devoted and able ministers of the New Covenant. Graciously prosper both this and every other good work, for our Redeemer's sake.

FOR A BLESSING ON SCHOOLS, AND EFFORTS TO PROMOTE EDUCATION.

O Lord our God, who hast called the young to remember their Creator in the days of their youth, and who hast bidden us to train up a child in the way in which he should go, and hast promised that when he is old he will not depart from it, we ask thy blessing on the efforts at this time making among us to promote Christian education and sound learning. We pray that thy blessed word may ever be the standard and the guide in all our plans for this end and the sure foundation of all our instruction; that we may seek first the kingdom of God and thy righteousness, and then expect every other good. Dispose the hearts of all gladly to assist in this work of love. We praise Thee that Thou hast established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which Thou didst command the

fathers to make known to their children, that the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born, who should arise and declare them to their children, that they might set their hope in Thee, and not forget thy works, but keep thy commandments. We beseech Thee to grant that thy people, obeying thy law, these great blessings may be continued to our children's children, from generation to generation, for our Redeemer's sake.

FOR A BLESSING ON CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

O Lord our God, who alone puttest into the hearts of thy people good desires, and dost enable us to bring them to good effect, all glory be to Thee, that Thou hast raised up in our favoured country so many blessed institutions for doing good both to the bodies and to the souls of men. Let thy blessing rest upon them. Give heavenly wisdom to all who conduct them. Comfort and support, sanctify and bless, all who maintain them. Increase continually the number of those who abound in works of love, and, like our Saviour, go about doing good. Cause thy people ever by well-doing to put to silence the ignorance of foolish men, to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour, and to bring glory to thy great name.

We especially pray for a blessing at this time on that particular design of charity which is now brought before us. Abundantly prosper this effort of love, and give us multiplied and increasing reasons to praise thy name. Let all who aid in it find by happy experience that it is more blessed to give than to receive; according to the saying of that divine Redeemer, in whose name we offer up all our prayers.

Family Prayers for Special Graces.

TO WALK CONSISTENTLY WITH OUR BAPTISM.

O Lord our God, baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we ought to have lived in the constant sense of thy presence and favour, in the full light of thy love, and in entire surrender of ourselves to thy service : but we have to mourn before Thee that we have continually failed in fulfilling our solemn obligations, and have dishonoured that holy name in which we have been baptized. Have mercy upon us, and cleanse us afresh from all our sins in the blood of Jesus. Oh enable us hereafter to fulfil our vows, and to walk worthy of our high calling ; to renounce the pomps and vanities of this world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh : to resist the Devil : to believe every truth of thy word, and to walk in all thy commandments blameless. By thine own Spirit, strengthen us. Discover to us more and more distinctly thy love to us, and our true blessedness, in walking as members of Christ, children of God, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Give us to realize salvation by grace through faith ; and with such glorious privileges, let us be followers of Thee as dear children, and become daily more like Thee. Oh let us never trust in the outward name or form ; but be enabled by thy promises, and the power of thine own Spirit, to partake of thy Divine nature, and to be holy as Thou art holy, pure as Thou art pure, and merciful as Thou art merciful, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PRAYER FOR CONVERSION.

O Thou living God, who art the Saviour of all men, and especially of them that believe, grant that not one among us may abide in an unconverted state. Suffer not so fearful a thing, as that any one of us, living in the fulness of gospel light, should be so blinded by the mists of sin and Satan, as to remain still in darkness, and fall hereafter into that outer darkness where shall be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. Turn Thou us, and we shall be turned. Give Thou to us all, according to thy precious promise, a new heart and a new spirit. Put thy Spirit within us, and teach us to seek the Lord while he may be found, and to call upon him while he is near, for our Saviour's sake. Amen.

FOR REPENTANCE.

O Thou exalted Prince and Saviour, Jesus Christ, seated at the right hand of God to give repentance unto Israel and remission of sins, we apply to Thee for these precious gifts. Thou hast told us, that except we repent, we shall all perish, and that there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth. Seeing then the unspeakable importance of true repentance, we would diligently seek of Thee this grace in all the ways of thine appointment. Teach us how spiritual, how holy, and just, and good, and how broad thy law is. Let the commandment in its purity, and life, and power, be discerned by us. Help us to see the awfulness and righteousness of the curse on transgressors, and that times without number, daily and constantly, we have fallen short of thy glory. Thus may sin by the commandment become to us exceeding sinful. By thine own Spirit show us thyself, made a sacrifice for us, and bearing our sins in thine own body on the tree. Oh help us to look to Thee, thus wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities, till we mourn with godly sorrow: and, with true compunction of heart, turn unto God

and lead a new life, and bring forth fruits meet for repentance. O Father Almighty, grant us repentance unto life. O Jesus, the only-begotten of the Father, give unto us repentance. O Holy Ghost, convince us of sin, and then of righteousness and of judgment, that we may be renewed daily, and become the temples of the living God, to whom be all honour and glory, now and evermore.

FOR FAITH.

O heavenly Father, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, and who savest thine own people, by grace, through faith, which is thy gift ; we come unto Thee that we may obtain like precious faith with all thine elect, through the righteousness of God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thou hast told us that without faith it is impossible to please Thee. Thou hast again and again assured us, that the just shall live by faith, and that he that believeth on thy Son shall not perish, but have everlasting life. Graciously, then, impart unto us all this needful gift : give unto us grace to believe in the name of thy Son. Enable us to do that special work which thou hast required of us, even to believe in him, and to obey the emphatic commands Thou hast laid upon us : to believe in him, and to love one another. Give us to discern, that, not to believe Thee and the record which Thou hast given of thy Son, is to account Thee false ; and grant that we may especially dread to insult and mock our God in the highest expression of his goodness to us. Let every one of us, then, know and believe the love which Thou hast to us, and that thy name is Love. Preserve us from the delusion and self-deception of a vain and dead faith without works. Give us true, living, saving faith which justifies the soul, brings peace, works by love, purifies the heart, quenches the fiery darts of Satan, and overcomes the world ; and finally brings us, happy in thy love, to dwell in thy presence for ever. Oh number us with the noble army of believers, who confess thy name before men, and at length enter thy

holy kingdom, and partake of the full joy of our Lord. Hear us for his name's sake.

FOR FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

O God, our merciful Father, we, thy sinful children, come before Thee in the name of Jesus. Lord, Thou hast graciously promised, I will blot out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: I will blot out thine iniquities for my name's sake; and this Thou hast said to those who have wearied Thee with their iniquities, and made Thee to serve with their sins. Oh, amazing grace and love! Thou wilt have such put Thee in remembrance. Thou hast said, Declare thou that thou mayest be justified; we do put Thee in remembrance: we do call upon Thee to pardon our sins: that, filled with the sense of thy pardoning love, we may, with singleness of aim, seek thy glory and do thy will, deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Thee. And now unto him who has washed us and cleansed us from our sins in his own blood, who has prepared a glorious kingdom for us, and made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, unto Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

FOR EARNESTNESS IN RELIGION.

O Thou, who hast commanded us to give diligence to make our calling and election sure, give unto us holy zeal and earnestness in serving Thee. Is it a light thing, O Lord, to come out of a world lying in wickedness, to obtain salvation, to escape eternal wrath, and to win eternal glory? Oh awaken our slumbering souls: let us not, by a spirit of trifling and levity, fall short of this eternal glory. Thou hast told us the ruin of those who make light of thy gospel: Thou hast told us, that straight is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life: Oh, work in us then mightily according to thine own power: teach us to use that holy violence by which the kingdom

of heaven is taken by force; the straight gate being set before us, let us press into it: let us hunger and thirst after righteousness, and desire spiritual blessings, with the same eager thirst with which men desire that which is absolutely necessary for their bodies. Hear us for His sake, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness.

FOR LOVE TO GOD AND HIS PEOPLE.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, whose loving-kindness to us is from everlasting to everlasting, we may indeed say, Thou hast dealt bountifully with thy servants: only let our hearts answer to thine own full and overflowing thoughts of wisdom and love to us. Shed abroad, by the Holy Ghost, thy love in our hearts. Deliver us from the misery of selfishness; and teach us not to live to ourselves, but to him who loved us, even so that he spared not his own Son for us. Let our love to Jesus be fervent, like her's whose many sins were forgiven, and who loved much, and like that of Paul after his conversion. And grant, Lord, that we may love all our brethren in Christ with a pure heart fervently, and that the love of thy people toward each other may increase more and more. We would joy in the thought that there is one God and Father of us all, and that all we are brethren. Hasten that happy state of thy church when it shall everywhere be said: "See how these Christians love one another!" The Lord make us to increase and abound in love one to another, and toward all men, and thus establish our hearts unblameable in holiness before Thee, O God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints. Amen.

THANKS FOR FAMILY LOVE, AND PRAYER FOR ITS INCREASE AND ABOUNDING TO ALL MEN.

O our God, if we have been comforts to one another in times past, all praise and glory be to Thee. Make us far

more than hitherto in time to come, mutual blessings. The fountain of thy grace is exhaustless ; oh may we more and more be the means of conveying it to one another. Whether we be united or separated in body, let us be more closely bound by the ties of Christian affection, and all the tender bonds of faithful love. Knowing that there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, oh let not one among us forsake the Father of mercies or despise thy grace, but all walk in the ways of holiness here, that we may reach thy heavenly kingdom hereafter. O Lord, make us to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, according to the love of the first disciples, and establish our hearts unblameable in holiness before thyself at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints. Amen.

FOR CHRISTIAN GRACES.

Almighty Father, who hast in thy word called us to be partakers of the mind which was in Christ Jesus, and to put on as the elect of God, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering, forbearing and forgiving one another, even as Christ forgave us, and above all to put on charity ; we beseech from Thee grace thus to adorn thy gospel and glorify thy name day by day. Work in us to will, and work in us to do of thy good pleasure, that we may work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. Oh impart to us all those dispositions which our divine Lord has pronounced to be blessed. Give us poverty of spirit, mourning for sin, meekness of spirit, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, mercifulness and purity in heart ; give us to be peacemakers ; and if persecuted for righteousness' sake let us rejoice and be glad. Make us thus truly the salt of the earth, and the light of the world, and a real blessing to all around. But, O Lord, our hearts are so full, by nature, of all that is opposite to the mind of Christ, and so evil and selfish, so proud and vain, that nothing but thine own

Holy Spirit can deliver us from the pollution and slavery of sin, and produce this thine own holy likeness in us. O grant then that we with open face may behold, as in a glass, the glory of the Lord, and be changed into the same image from glory to glory, by the Spirit of the Lord, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PRAYER AGAINST OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMIES.

O Lord, Thou knowest that we have great and mighty enemies. We have a heart of fearful wickedness within : Oh teach us to subdue the lusts of the flesh, and bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. An ensnaring world is around us : teach us to know its snares, of which we are so ignorant : and since Thou hast said, this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith, Oh give us this conquering faith. Teach us above all, not to be ignorant of the devices of Satan ; our cruel, real, hateful foe, who is always striving to drag us to destruction. Thou knowest, Lord, where this great enemy of our souls has any peculiar advantage over us ; as Thou didst pray for Peter, so that his faith failed not, watch over, guard and keep us that we may not fail. Oh give us the shield of faith to quench his fiery darts, and make us more than conquerors through him who hath loved us. Bruise Satan under our feet shortly, and give unto us a new song of praise and thanksgiving. In all our failings let us experience the peculiar faithfulness and tenderness which Thou showest unto thy backsliding children, and know the truth of the promise, "I will hear their backslidings, I will love them freely, for mine anger is turned away from them." Hear us, for Christ's sake.

ON RECEIVING INJURIES FROM OTHERS.

Merciful Father, God of all grace, we come before Thee with the joyful assurance that we are approaching one of infinite wisdom, almighty power, holy love, and unfailing

goodness and compassion. Oh lead us, the more we see of human weakness, waywardness, hardness, and unkindness, to cease from man, whose breath is in his nostrils, and to delight in the glory of our God. And if others do us evil, give us that special grace from Thee, which leads us to seek to overcome evil with good. Let us live in the Spirit, and walk after the Spirit. Give us to remember our own many, and great, and oft-repeated offences against Thee, and thy free and renewed and full forgiveness of all in Christ Jesus. Let us follow the example of thy forgiving love, who for Christ's sake hath forgiven us. Oh let not our hearts dwell, Lord, here below, fixed on the cares and troubles of this lower world ; but let us live in the light of thy love, and be daily more and more prepared for thy coming glory. Enable us to rise above the clouds of this world, to the glorious sunshine of that eternal love which Thou hast revealed to us, and in which we hope to dwell with Thee for ever, through Jesus our Redeemer.

PRAYER FOR PATIENCE.

O Lord, who seest our sad impatience and fretfulness, when disturbed by anything which crosses and goes contrary to us, have mercy upon us, and pardon our great sinfulness. Oh help us to learn of Jesus, who was meek and lowly in heart, that we may find rest to our souls. Grant us thus to walk worthy of our high calling, in all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering forbearing one another in love ; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. In our patience let us possess our souls, and let that patience have its perfect work, that we may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. Give us grace to remember that the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle to all men, patient ; in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves ; showing all meekness to all men. Give us this Christ-like and humble spirit, to the glory of thy great name, and the daily

peace and comfort of ourselves and all around us, through Jesus our Redeemer.

TO BE DELIVERED FROM COVETOUSNESS.

Give us, Lord, full confidence in Thee, not only for present mercy, but for all that is to come : thus let our conversation be without covetousness. Give us all to remember thy solemn charge to take heed of covetousness, for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. Give us a large heart for Thee and for thy cause, and so make us rich toward God. Let us be content with such things as Thou hast given us : and let us trust in thy gracious promise that Thou wilt never leave us, wilt never forsake us. And not only let us trust Thee in temporal things, but as regards our eternal interest also, give us to believe that thy sheep shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of thy hand. Thus enable us, O our God, to be careful for nothing ; but in every thing, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let our requests be made known unto Thee, for our Redeemer's sake, who, though Lord of all, for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich.

FOR GRACE TO WALK IN THE PATH OF DUTY.

Enable us, Lord, to fulfil our duties to Thee and to one another. Let us feel that the path of duty is the path of happiness : make us quick to discern it, and bold and stedfast to pursue it. Knowing that the Lord is our helper, and that Thou art the rewarder of all them who diligently seek Thee, we would go on fearlessly in a straight-forward course, seeking thy glory : but let us never, in the boldness of the true disciples of Christ, forget the humility and meekness which become us. Enable us to give up and mortify all our self-wisdom, self-will, and self-righteousness, and to be ever ready to concede to others, where concession does not interfere with the glory of our Saviour ;

looking to Him who pleased not himself, but endured the contradiction of sinners, and so attained the joy set before Him. Hear us, for his name's sake.

FOR GRACE TO CONFESS THE TRUTH.

We thank Thee, Lord, for the many precious promises of thy word, and for the assurance,—I will never leave Thee nor forsake Thee. Trusting in this thy word, let us boldly say, The Lord is my helper, I will not fear what man can do unto me. Preserve us, we beseech Thee, from being ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Let us feel that it is the power of God unto salvation. Make us valiant for thy truth, nor let us ever fear to speak it with boldness; but make us at the same time meek and humble, as those whose sins have been pardoned through the blood of Christ. Amen.

FOR LIKEMINDEDNESS TO CHRIST.

Lord, Thou hast said, "Ask and ye shall have, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." In full confidence that what is spoken in thy word shall be fulfilled in thy works of providence and grace, we ask for thy Spirit, and for faith and love. More especially we pray for the image of Christ; that his meekness, gentleness, holiness, patience, zeal, and every other lovely part of the Saviour's character may be inscribed upon our hearts, may direct our words, and be manifest in our actions. Thou hast said, "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his:" Oh give us the spirit of the Saviour. Give us to abide in him, like the branch in the vine, that we may derive from him strength, support, and beauty, and bring forth much fruit. Hear our prayer for his name's sake. Amen.

FOR GRACE TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF A SUFFERING SAVIOUR.

O Lord, who hast shown many wonders of love in creation and providence, yet none so wondrous as the history of the sufferings of thy beloved Son, give us to know more of his love and meekness, and to learn from him patiently to receive whatever strokes our heavenly Father may send as the chastisement of our sins. Let us remember that we are called as his disciples to suffer for well-doing, and that it is a privilege and happiness to suffer for his sake. And may we copy not only the meekness and gentleness of Jesus, but his fervency and holy zeal. Let us remember how great was the burden of our sins which lay upon him ; and yet how, being strong in the Lord, he endured even to the end. Oh teach us that the fountain of his eternal strength is open to us also ; and let us yield to no temptation, but be delivered from the fear of our enemies, and fight manfully under his banner against the world, the flesh, and the Devil. Assure our hearts that Jesus is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever ; that the Good Shepherd is watching with tender care over his sheep in the wilderness of this world : that he walks in the midst of the golden candlesticks ; and is with us every hour in the fulness of his dying love, the riches of his grace, and the depth of his heavenly wisdom ; and so strengthen us to endure joyfully his cross in the way to his eternal joy, for his name's sake.

FOR HOLINESS.

O holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, who hast commanded us to be holy, for Thou art holy, and hast assured us that without holiness no man shall see the Lord, we, thy sinful creatures, whose hearts are deceitful above all things and desperately wicked, come together to thy mercy-seat, to obtain mercy, and to find grace to help in time of need, Enable us, we beseech Thee, to come out and be separate

from an evil world, and not to touch the unclean thing. Help us to believe thy loving-kindness in redeeming us from all iniquity, and pardoning all our sins, and in assuring us that Thou wilt receive us and be a Father unto us. Having these promises, oh let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord. Write these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee. O Thou very God of peace, sanctify us wholly, and grant that our whole spirit, and soul, and body, may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FOR HOPE.

O God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. We know that when Christ shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is: give us then to hope to the end, for the grace which is to be brought unto us at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Amidst all the delay of our hope, let us still continue to expect and quietly wait for thy salvation; knowing that we are saved by hope, and if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. Give us then, we beseech Thee, this sure anchor of the soul, and this helmet of our salvation; that we may be preserved stedfast, unmoveable, and always abounding in thy work here, till our hope be realized in the full fruition of thy glory in the world to come.

FOR JOY AND PEACE IN BELIEVING.

O Thou who hast called us always to rejoice and in every thing to give thanks, we know, O Lord, that Thou art our God, our Father, and our portion; and that we are every one of us in exactly those circumstances which Thou dost in thy wisdom see best for us. We would then glorify Thee by joy and peace in believing. Thou

hast commanded us to rejoice: give what Thou dost command, and then command what Thou wilt. Let this joy be our daily strength for every duty. And oh that Thou wouldest also grant that our joy and peace may be the means of bringing others unto Thee. Let others say, We will go with you, for the Lord is with you. Enable us to say unto them, as Moses did unto Hobab, Come with us, and we will do Thee good, for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel. Hear us, for Christ's sake.

FOR PREPARATION FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST.

Give unto us, O Lord, a simple faith in the testimony of thine own word: and a real expectation of those great, awful, and blessed events which are coming upon the world. Thou comest speedily: let us watch the signs of the times, and prepare for thy coming. Teach us how overwhelming to our earthly sight, our timorous hearts, our sin-burdened consciences, would be any glimpse of that glory which Thou art preparing for us; that we may seek to have our sins cleansed in the blood of the Saviour, and our hearts filled with that perfect love which casteth out fear, that we may be more and more prepared to stand in thy holy presence. Oh grant us such grace, that when Thou dost come and knock, we may be ready to open unto Thee, to dwell for ever with thee, and for ever to behold the glory of the Lord. Hear us, for thy great name's sake.

PRESERVATION FROM THE PECULIAR ERRORS OF THESE TIMES.

O Lord, Thou God of all truth and holiness, who hast charged us not to believe every spirit, seeing that many false prophets are gone out into the world, but to try the spirits whether they are of God, give us grace to prove all things by thy law and testimony, and to hold fast that which is good. Preserve Thou us from every unclean

spirit, whether of infidelity, or lawlessness, or Popery, or any other false spirit which comes out of the mouth of the dragon, or of the beast, or of the false prophet. We would be constantly looking for the second coming of Christ, and know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. Grant us grace to watch, and keep our garments undefiled. Do Thou clothe us with the heavenly armour of light, and give us well-grounded assurance that we are not appointed unto wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. Oh give us to keep the word of thy patience, and so let us be kept by Thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell on the earth. Oh hear us for our Redeemer's sake.

PRESERVATION FROM THE SPECIAL TEMPTATIONS OF THESE TIMES.

O merciful Father, who hast warned us that in the last days perilous times shall come, we mourn before Thee, that we have in our days so many sad tokens of these times. We earnestly beseech Thee so to grant us thy grace, that none of us, no not one, may be found among those who are lovers of themselves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof. Ever turn us away from such; and give us to continue in the things which we have learned and been assured of. Enlighten us by the Holy Scriptures, given by thy inspiration, which are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness; and enable us to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, and thus

thoroughly furnish us unto all good works, through the same Lord Jesus, our Redeemer.

THAT THE HOPE OF COMMUNION WITH ANGELS IN GLORY MAY QUICKEN US TO PRESENT OBEDIENCE.

O Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, that we by patience and comfort of the same, might have hope, lead us to the records in thy word of the appearance of angels in thy earthly temple, and of their ministering to the heirs of salvation, to look forward to the day when Thou shalt appear in thy glory, with all thy holy angels. They who minister unto Thee shall then be ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; and we praise together and bless thy holy name that Thou givest us the hope that when we are raised up in glory we shall be equal unto the angels, being the children of God, even the children of the resurrection. That we may attain this glory, give us now to choose the way of thy commandments, now to live to faith, and be a people made ready for the Lord: let us forsake the vain pleasures of the world, and, being filled with joy and peace in believing, serve Thee here with reverence and fear, that we may be fitted to serve Thee with unbroken joy and delight in thy temple above, for Jesus' sake.

FOR GRACE TO REALIZE THE PRESENCE AND LOVE OF CHRIST.

Grant us to think, O Jesus, on Thine ever-watchful providence, and to remember that nothing which concerns us, however small, escapes thy notice, that thus we may feel that we have an ever-present, ever-gracious friend. Give us to know, that it is a crucified Saviour who is thus present with us,—he who loved us unto death, who gave his life for us. Grant, O Saviour, that when we read of all thy sufferings, and of thy tender love and care for

thy first disciples, our love to Thee may grow more warm, more fervent, and more sincere. Oh let us love Thee and keep thy words: and thus obtain the promise that the Father will love us, and that Thou, O Lord Jesus, with the Father, wilt come unto us and abide with us. Hear us for thine own name's sake. Amen.

FOR GRACE TO REALIZE THE UNCHANGEABLENESS OF CHRIST.

O Lord Jesus, who art the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever, teach us to know how unchangeable Thou art in thy glorious nature as the Son of God, and as the Son of Man; still wearing our form upon thy throne of glory, and about to come again in that form once more to judge and to bless our earth. Teach us by blessed experience the unchangeableness of thine offices of love. Still, as Immanuel, be with us; as our Prophet, teach us: as our Priest, plead for us: as our King, rule over us: as Jesus, save and deliver us from our sins. Oh let the ever-enduring power of thy salvation be our stay and comfort. Though we be vile as the expiring thief, stubborn as the hardened Jews, blind as the unbelieving Gentiles, let the same mighty power which saved them, ransom and deliver us. And as we read in thy holy word of each instance of thy goodness, let us delight in the thought that thy mercy and tenderness are still the same, thy love an unbroken stream which shall but widen as it flows, till the whole earth be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. Never, Lord, let the sinful chains of custom, the deadening influence of an unbelieving world, or the secret unbelief of our own hearts, hide from us the blessed truth that Jesus is the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever. Since Thou art the same mighty Lord, whose glory the prophet beheld and cried, "Woe is me, for I am unclean, a man of unclean lips," let us never approach Thee but with deep reverence and godly fear; since Thou art ever united to us, bone of our bone, and

flesh of our flesh, let us now by faith carry on a blessed interchange of communion with Thee, till we see Thee as Thou art, and know as we are known.

PRAYER FOR HUSBAND AND WIFE TO USE TOGETHER.

O Thou merciful God and Father, who in the beginning didst ordain marriage for the mutual help and comfort of us thy sinful creatures : We thank Thee for thy goodness in uniting us together, in the close and tender bonds of husband and wife. Assist us, we beseech Thee, ever to live together as fellow-heirs of the grace of life. Oh may we love each other according to that Divine pattern set before us in thy word, the husband loving the wife as Christ loved his Church, and the wife being subject in every thing to her husband, as the Church is to Christ. Help us in all things to seek each other's best good, and daily to watch over each other for our mutual edification, and growth in grace. Suffer neither of us ever to be a hindrance to the other, in the way of life ; may we, each, always be mutually helpful to the other's soul's welfare. Give us grace to fulfil all our family duties so that our whole household may be brought up in thy faith, and fear, and love. We desire wisdom and grace of Thee that we may dwell together in knowledge and in tender and constant love, bearing each other's infirmities, strengthening each other's graces, delighting in each other's society, and attaining all that full blessedness, which Thou in the riches of thy love didst design for us.

[Help us especially to train up our children in the way they should go, commanding them to keep the way of the Lord, and continually instructing them in thy truth. Let thy mighty grace not only assist us in teaching, but so prosper also our efforts that the seed sown may have an abundant increase, and our children may be blessed themselves, rise up to call us blessed, and be increasing means of good to all around them.]

Make us also a full blessing to all dependent upon us. Grant that our household may ever be ordered according to the Gospel of Christ, and his name may in all things be glorified in us, and in all connected with us.

Hear us, for our Redeemer's sake.

GRACE BEFORE MEALS.

O Lord, bless this provision for our use, and make us truly thankful, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Or this,

Thou givest us, O Lord, all things richly for enjoyment; and whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, let us do all to thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

GRACE AFTER MEALS.

We thank Thee, O Father, who hast given us our meat in due season. Let us live to thy praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Or this,

Blessed be our God, who daily loadeth us with his benefits, for all his goodness to us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Commencing and Concluding Prayers.

COMMENCEMENT OF PRAYER.

(Before reading the Scriptures.)

O Lord, send thy Spirit into our hearts to guide us into all truth, and sanctify us by thy truth, for Jesus Christ's sake.

O Lord, teach us thy statutes ; may we know the truth, and may the truth make us free, for Christ's sake. Amen.

Let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer.

Lord, teach us to pray.

MORNING OR EVENING COLLECTS.

(These may be added to the foregoing Family Prayers, or, in cases of extreme pressure for time, one of these Collects and the Lord's Prayer may be used, and so obtain the comfort of Family Prayer.)

MORNING.

I. O Lord our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day ; defend us in the same with thy mighty power : and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger ; but that all our doings may be

ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[The third Collect, at Morning Prayer, for grace.]

II. Father, grant us this day thy blessing, the comfort of thy grace, and the light of thy countenance. In all our ways we acknowledge Thee; direct Thou our path, and enlarge our hearts, that we may run in the way of thy commandments, going from strength to strength; growing in grace, and in the knowledge of thy Son our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory, both now and for ever. Amen.

III. For the last night's peace and safety, and for this day's returning light: for renewed life, and renewed mercies; above all, for Jesus Christ, the fountain of all goodness and all blessing, we thank Thee, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God:

And we beseech Thee give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before Thee holily, justly, and unblameably, this and every day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IV. O most merciful Lord, and heavenly Father, by whose bounty and providence we continually live and move; so uphold us by thy constant grace, that this day we may do nothing to displease Thee, dishonour thy Son, nor grieve thy Holy Spirit. Give thy angels charge over us to keep us in all thy ways, and to bear us up in their hands, lest evil befal us. Send us help from thy holy place, and evermore mightily defend us, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

V. O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, who in the beginning didst command the light to shine out of darkness; shine in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Father, glorify thy name, and so enable us to walk as children of

light, that we may glorify Thee in our bodies and in our spirits which are thine, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

VI. O Lord, who hast mercifully refreshed us with sleep, and preserved us from the perils of this night, raise us from the sleep and death of sin to serve Thee in newness of life. Remember us with the favour which Thou bearest unto thy people ; and grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

VII. Because, O Lord, Thou hast heard our supplications, and inclined thine ear and in thy great mercy granted unto us the peaceful, quiet rest which we needed, therefore will we call upon Thee as long as we live, and every day bless Thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. In confidence of thy love, O Father, we commit ourselves this day to thy protection, and the disposal of all the concerns and wants of our lives, to thy gracious providence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

VIII. O Lord God, our heavenly Father, the Author and giver of all good things, send thy grace that we may worship, serve and obey Thee as we ought to do ; grant us what Thou knowest to be needful for us, in soul and body : be merciful unto us, and forgive us our sins ; save and defend us in all dangers ; keep us from all sin and wickedness ; from the subtlety, power, and malice of our spiritual adversaries, and from everlasting death : and this we beg of thy mercy and goodness, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

IX. Merciful Lord, who hast been our defence from the terrors of night, and our guard from the pestilence that walketh in darkness : give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light : be Thou this day our Commander and Leader, our refuge and strength : preserve our going out and our coming in : preserve our bodies from harm, and our souls

from sin : bless Thou us, and we shall be blessed. Bless Thou us, that we may be a blessing to others, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

X. O Lord our God, our times are in thy hand. Enable us to use them in thy service, and to thy glory : and as thou addest days to our lives, and mercies to our days, teach us so to number our days, and so to live, that, applying our hearts to thy wisdom, we may be made wise unto salvation. O Thou, who art the light of this world, cast thy bright beams upon us, that, walking in the light of thy truth, we may at length attain to the light of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

XI. Glory be to Thee, O Lord, the Author and Restorer to us of life, of breath, and all things. We laid us down, and slept ; we awakened, for Thou didst sustain us. Unto Thee, O Thou that dwellest in the heavens, we lift up our opened eyes : unto Thee we offer and present our renewed lives, and our whole selves, imploring thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in Thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

XII. O Lord, who hast prepared for our use the light and the sun, prepare our hearts that we may walk stedfastly in the light of thy truth, holding forth in our example and by our conversation, the word of life, and shining as lights in the world, to thy honour and glory, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

FOR SUNDAY MORNING.

In the multitude of thy mercies, O Lord, we will go into thine house ; in thy fear will we worship toward thy holy temple.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house, who behold the beauty of the Lord, and enquire in his temple, and are

still praising Thee in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.

Blessed God, be Thou in the midst of them ; hear, and bless, and satisfy them early with thy mercy. Clothe thy priests with righteousness, and make glad the hearts of thy saints. O Thou who hast chosen Zion for thy habitation, be pleased this day abundantly to bless her provision, abundantly to satisfy her poor with bread, for thy mercy's sake, in thy dear Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or this,

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before Thee ; grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

EVENING COLLECTS.

I. O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed : give unto thy servants that peace, which the world cannot give ; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments ; and also, that by Thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Or,

Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord ; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night ; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

II. Let our prayer, O Lord, be set forth in thy sight, as incense, and the lifting up of our hands, as the evening

sacrifice. The day is thine, and the night is thine. Father, forgive us our sins: Father, receive us to thy mercy! Father, into thy hands we commend our spirits, and our bodies. O Thou, who never slumberest nor sleepest, keep our bodies in safety while in slumber and sleep, and our souls in thy constant love and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

III. O most blessed and glorious Lord God, be Thou, who art light itself, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, our light and our salvation! From the perils, the powers, and the works of darkness, good Lord, deliver us! and grant that, abiding under thy shadow, and covered with thy feathers, we may fear neither the terror by night, nor the pestilence that walketh in darkness. Put thy name upon us. Bless and keep us. Make thy face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. Lift up thy countenance upon us, and give us peace, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

IV. Blessed be the Lord, even the God of our salvation, who daily loadeth us with benefits, and whom we daily burden and displease with our sins: God be merciful unto us sinners: God be glorified every day for redemption through the blood of Jesus, and for a throne of grace where we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. May it please Thee, merciful Lord God, to hear the cry of the unthankful and the evil, for mercy and grace. Grant us, we beseech Thee, true repentance and thy Holy Spirit; wash away our sins; renew and sanctify our souls, that lying down in peace, we may dwell in safety under thy protection, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

V. For this prolonged life and health, and for the multiplied comforts and benefits of another day, let us bless the name of our God, and make the voice of his praise to be heard. We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord, who holdeth our souls in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved: for the multiplied sins

of another day, let our souls be truly and deeply humbled. Father, we have sinned ; we are not worthy to be called thy children : we have forsaken the guide of our youth, and forsaken the covenant of our God ; we acknowledge our transgressions. O remember them not against us—blot them out in the Redeemer's blood. Grant us pardon and peace, that being cleansed from all our sins, we may serve Thee with a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

VI. Into thy hands, O most merciful Father, we commend our souls and bodies, for Thou hast redeemed us with the precious blood of thy dear Son. For his name's sake pardon our iniquity, and make in us a clean heart, and renew within us a right spirit; and so bless and sanctify to us this night's rest, that being strengthened both in body and soul, we may cheerfully accomplish those things which thou wouldest have done, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

VII. Forgive, most gracious Father, all that we have this day done—of evil, and left undone—of good : our sins of heedlessness and of wilfulness : our sins committed against light and knowledge : our ignorance and negligence. Remember not against us former or present iniquities ; but according to thy mercy remember Thou us, for thy goodness' sake, that we may neither lie down to sleep under thy displeasure, nor rise but with the hope of thy favour, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

VIII. O Lord, keep us mindful at the close of every day, that the end of all earthly things is to us at hand, that our days are numbered, and that the appointed time of our lives here below is hastening to its close. Lord, grant that we may work the works which Thou hast given us to do, while it is called to-day, and before that night comes when none can work. Grant that our daily life, being spent in thy fear and favour, may be a daily preparation for thy coming ; so that death may no more be a

terror to our prepared souls, than sleep is to our wearied bodies ; and this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

IX. O Thou who art the Father of lights, grant that, amidst the shades of darkness, which the night has gathered round us, in thy light we may see light. O send out thy light to bring us to that land where there shall be no night, and to the city which needs neither the sun nor moon to shine in it, of which the Lamb is the everlasting light : to him be glory. Amen.

X. O Lord God, who of thy abundant goodness hast ordained the day for labour, and the night for rest, deny us not this night's rest after this day's toil. In the hours of helplessness and silence, be Thou our defender and shield : and cause us to rise up with bodies refreshed and strengthened, and hearts disposed and fitted for thy service, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

XI. Merciful God, we commit ourselves to thy watchful providence. Forsake us not when, in our sleep and upon our bed, we have no power to help or protect ourselves ; defend us and our habitation ; deliver us from the power of evil spirits and of evil men, and grant that whether sleeping or waking, living or dying, we may be thine, and continue thine for ever, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

XII. Grant, O Lord, that the close of the day may turn our thoughts to the end of our lives ; that our necessary sleep may be the memento to us of the coming inevitable stroke of death, and our bed, of the grave ; that so, being always vigilant, and prepared for our last end, when death comes, it may no more affright us than night affrights us now, but we may be sustained on the bed of death in the same peace in which we lie down to take our rest on the bed of sleep. In the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, good Lord deliver us. Amen.

Sunday Evening.—O Lord, let the sheep and lambs of thy flock be for ever precious in thy sight : make them to lie down in green pastures ; lead them beside the still

waters : be Thou ever present to restore their souls, and prepare a table before them ; let goodness and mercy follow them all the days of their life ; and grant that, having seen thy power and glory in the earthly sanctuary, they may be found among the upright who dwell in thy presence, and have a place assigned to them at thy right hand, where there are pleasures for evermore. Amen.

Or this,

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petition of those that ask in thy Son's name, we beseech Thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us that have made now our prayers and supplications unto Thee : and grant, that those things which we have faithfully asked, according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER.

(At the beginning or end of the Family Prayers.)

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; but deliver us from evil ; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUSION OF PRAYERS.

Rom. xvi. 27. To God only wise, be glory, through Jesus Christ, for ever. Amen.

1 Tim. vi. 15, 16. To the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen nor can see, be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Jude 25. To the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Ephes. iii. 20, 21. Unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, to him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

CONCLUDING BLESSINGS.

The peace of God be with you all, now and evermore.

Or,

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Or,

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Or,

The God of love and peace be with you.

INDEX.

Absent Friends, 48
——— members of family, 284
Address on commencing family worship, 1
Administration, changes in, 296
Adoption, 70, 96
Adoration, 82
Advent Sunday Morning, 165
——————— Evening, 167
Afflictions, in time of, 287
——————— sanctified, 72
——————— praise for, 117
Afflicted, prayer for, 21, 43
Aged, prayer for, 310
All Saints' day, 254
Andrew, (St.), 256
Angels, communion with, 336, 274
Annunciation of Virgin, 250
Apostacy, 206
Ardnt on Good Friday, &c., 211, 213
Ascension-day, 224
Ash Wednesday, 218
Assistance in duty, 102
Assured faith, 126
Baptism, before, 269
——— after, 270
——— to walk consistently with, 322
Barnabas, (St.), 251
Bartholomew, (St.), 253
Benefactors, prayer for, 310
Bible Society, 319
Birth-day, 285
Bishops, 303
Bishopric, vacancy in, 296
Bodily wants, 161
Britain, love of God to, 66
Burial of Christ, 215
——— member of family, 279
Calamities, heavy, 291
Care cast on God, 68
Charity, prayer for, 326
Charitable institutions, 321
Children, 311
Child-birth, 279
Child, sick, 288
——— recovered, 288
Christ, coming of, 52, 103, 334
——— conformity to, 332
——— death of, 217
——— fulness of, 136
——— humility of, 218
——— presence of, 336
——— riches of, 136
——— sufferings of, 197, 204
——— unchangeableness of, 337
Christian graces, 327
——— Knowledge Society, 318
Christmas Morning, 256
——————— Evening, 258
Church of Christ, 23, 63, 92, 163, 302
——————— England, 23
Circumcision of Christ, 237
Cities, prayer for, 306
Cleansing, 203
Clerical Aid Societies, 320
Clerical Meeting, prayer for, 299
Colleges, 305
Commencement of prayer, 340
Communion with God, 34
——————— (on any day previous), 271
——————— after, 277
——————— Lord's day morning, 272
——————————— evening, 275
——————— on Lord's-day before, 274; week-day after, 277
Compassion, divine, 102
Conclusion of prayers, 348
Concluding blessings, 6
Congregations, blessing on, 106
Confession of Christ, 200
——————— truth, 331
——————— sin, 18, 26, 30, 37, 48, 72, 83, 85, 106, 122
Confirmation, before, 270
——————— after, 271
Conformity to God's image, 88
Consideration for others, 74
Contentment, 158
Contrition, 115
Cottager's Family Prayers, 153
Conversion, 323
——————— of St. Paul, 248
Country, prayer for, 306
Covetousness, 330
Cross taken up, 35,
Dangers, 148
Darkness, confidence in, 217
Deacons, prayer for, 303
Death in family, 292
——— truly christian, 293
Deliverance from affliction, 288
——————— dangers, 148
——————————— fear of death, 217
——————— sin, 142
Dependence on God, 43
Devotedness to God, 144
Difficulties, help in, 63
Diffusion of Scripture, 37
Disciples, to be like, 198
Do all in the name of Jesus, 39
Do good to others, 82
Duty, grace to fulfil, 13, 78, 138, 157, 161
Duty, Sabbath, 108
——— path of, 330
——— relative, 39, 113
Earnestness in religion, 325
Easter Eve, 217
——— Sunday morning, 220
——————— evening, 222
Education, efforts to promote, 320
Efforts to do good, 82, 309
Ember week, 234
Epiphany morning, 246

Epiphany evening, 248
Enemies, spiritual prayer against, 328
Eternal realities, 45, 163
Evening Collects, 340—343
Fair weather, 294
Faith, 17, 32, 61, 86, 93, 120, 122, 149, 151
Family blessedness, 59
——— holiness, 118
——— love, 326
——— mercies, 34
——— providential seasons, 283
——— union, 139
——— worship, address on commencing, 1
——— praise for, 50
Fasts, fixed 236
——— moveable, 165
Fast, public, 281
Fear of death, 217
Feasts, fixed, 236
——— moveable, 165
Fellowship with Christ's sufferings, 204
First family prayer, 4
——— day of year, morning, 237
——————— evening, 239
——— Lord's day of year, morning, 242
——————————— evening, 244
Fellow disciples of Christ, 198
Follow humility of Christ, 208
——— Christ in suffering, 204
Formality, prayer against, 118
Forgiveness, 325
Friends in trial, 311
——— after mercy to, 312
Fulness of Christ's salvation, 136
Gentile Churches, sins confessed, 203
Giving up ourselves to God, 50
Glory of Christ, 126
——— duty fulfilled in hope of, 15
Good Friday morning, 211
——————— evening, 213
Gospel blessings, 138
——— Propagation Society, Meeting, or Sermon before, 316
Grief for sin in others, 122
Grace sought, 23, 74, 91
Graces before and after meals, 339
——— Christian, 327
Hardness of heart, 83
Harvest, 295
Hatred of sin, 86, 161
Hearing of prayer, 108
Heathen, prayer for, 158
Heavenly glory, 145
——————— mindedness, 113, 157
——————— Sabbaths, desired, 57
Help, prayer for, 18, 63, 103
Hints against formality, xvii
Holiness, 118, 149, 332
Holy Spirit, 21, 74, 76, 94, 106, 160
Holy things, sin in, 100
Hope, 122, 151, 333
Hosannas, 201
Humility, 208
Husband and wife, 338
Increase of family love, 326
Influence of Sabbath services, 110
Injuries received, 329
Innocent's day, 261
Instructions of Christ, to receive, 206
Intercession of Christ, 80, 109
——————— for others, 96, 98
James (St.) the Apostle, 253
Jehovah adored, 74
Jesus, 159
Jews, conversion of, 160
——— meeting or sermon before, 315
——— sermon or meeting, after, 316
John (St.) the Baptist, 252
——————————Evangelist, 260
Journey, 283
Joy, 88, 333
Judges, 306
Justification, free, 89
Kingdom of Christ, 68
Knowledge of God 134
——————— scriptures 134
Last day of the year. morning, 265
——————————— evening, 267
Last Lord's day of year, morning, 261
——————————— evening, 263
Law, grace to keep, 206.
Lent, 218
Light of Christ's countenance, 146
Looking to Jesus, 157
Lord's prayer, 6
Love, 151, 326
———, for a sense of God's, 10
———, to realize Christ's, 86
——— to God, 24
——— saints, 326
Luke (St.) the Evangelist, 254
Magistrates, 306
Mark's (St.) day, 250
Marriage, 278
Martyrdom of Charles I. 249
Matthew (St.) the Apostle, 253
Matthias' (St.) day, 250
Meditation on Christ, 200.
Mercy to sinners, 64, 76, 135, 155
Mercies, Morning, 17, 59, 85
——— daily, 271, 100, 158
——— Sabbath, 29, 30, 57, 132
Michael (St.) and all Angels, 253
Ministers, prayer for, 52, 132, 303
——— Sickness, 289
——— Recovery, 289
Minister, vacancy in parish, 296
Morning Collects, 340—343
Name of Jesus to do all in all, 39
November 5th, 254

Ordination, before, 234
——— after, 234
Pardon, 34, 124
Parish, prayer for, 308
Parliament, 307
Passion Week, 196
Passion of Christ, 211
Pastoral Aid Society, 320
Patience, 329
Peace, 333
Perplexities, 291
Perseverance, 98
Peter's St.) day, 252
Philip (St.) and St. James, 250
Praise, 85, 100
Prayer-book and Homily Society, 318
Prayer, rest in weariness, 12
——— promises to, 93
Preaching of Word, for blessing on, 9, 85
Preparation for Christ's coming, 52, 103, 165
——— eternity, 163
——— judgment, 167
——— sabbath, 26, 127
Presence of God, 41
Preservation from errors of these times, 334
——— temptations of these times, 335
Priests, prayer for, 303
Privileges, sabbath, to improve, 7
Profit by word preached, 135
Protection through night, 15
Prosperity of church sought, 63
Protestant churches, prayer for, 303
Providence of God, 88
Provision for bodily wants, 161
Public Fast, 281
Purification of Virgin Mary, 249
Queen's accession, 251
Quickening grace, 93
Rain, 294
Recovery from sickness, 287
——— of child, 288
——— of servant, 290
Reformed churches, prayers [illegible]
Regard to the soul, 120
Religious societies, 18
Remember word preached, 32, 135, 154
Repentance, 89, 149, 323
Reproach, to follow Christ in, 46
Residence, removal to new, 283
Rest in Christ, 129
Restoration, 251
Return of Christ, 45, 68, 103, 157, 201,
——— home after absence, 284
Riches of Christ, 141
Riots, prayer in, 293
Sabbath, 26, 29, 30, 55, 57, 80, 103, 110, 227, 153
——— spirit maintained, 155
Sailor's prayer, 298
Saints' day, 236
Satan, for overthrow of, 26
Saving grace, 98
Schools, blessing on, 320
——— prayers for week-days, 319
——— Sabbath, 313
Scriptures, praise for, 37
Self-dedication, 144
Separation from the world, 91
Servant leaving, 285
——— coming, 285
——— direction in choosing, 286
——— sick, 289
——— restored to health, 290
Sickness in family, 286
——— in time of, general, 290
Simon (St.) and St. Jude, 254
Sin, 64
Sion, Christ's speedy return to, 200
Soldiers, prayer of, 297
Spiritual blessings, 111
——— mind, 132
Stephen's (St.) day, 260
Strength sought, 13, 156
Sufficiency, God's, 20
Summer, prayer in, 295
Supply of wants, 108, 161
Sunday morning Collects, 343
——— evening Collects, 344
Temptations. 162, 333
Thanksgiving for Christ, 21
——— for sufferings of Christ, 209
——— for death of Christ, 213
——— for first coming of Christ, 165
Thomas, (St.) the Apostle, 256
Throne of judgment and of grace, 70
Tract Society, 318
Trials, to follow Christ in, 46
——— in prospect of, 291
Trinity Sunday morning, 230
——— evening, 232
Unconverted, prayer for, 100
Unity among Christians, 304
Unworthiness, 135
[illegible]fulness to others, 110
Universal sabbath desired, 55
Universities, 305
Visit of friend, 284
Wales, Prince of, 255.
Week spent under sabbath influence, 110
Whitsunday morning, 226
——— evening, 228
Will of God, 139
Winter, 295
Wisdom, heavenly, 151
Word preached, blessing on, 9, 85
Young persons dependent on us, 31

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